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1966

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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April 21 - 22, 1966

HOTEL VERMONT

BURLINGTON, VERMONT

ASCS



## REPORT OF 1966 STATE ASCS CONFERENCE

Vermont State and County Committeemen, County Office Managers,  
County Agents, and Guests

Held at Hotel Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, April 21 and 22, 1966

### Foreword

This report presents the highlights of the talks and actions taken at the 1966 State ASCS Conference. This, our 28th conference of county committeemen and county office managers, was held to discuss some of the changes which have taken place in ASCS programs over the years. These changes have been made to meet changing conditions in agriculture. Ways and means of doing a better job and to help make a better Vermont were discussed by speakers and those attending the conference.

We were fortunate to have Governor Philip H. Hoff speak at the second day's session.

We were also honored by the presence of John L. Daley, Lieutenant Governor of Vermont, at the conference banquet. We appreciate his taking time from a busy schedule to be with us.

The conference sessions and the banquet were well attended by county committeemen, county office managers and persons representing the various cooperating agencies.

We appreciate very much the work and wholehearted cooperation of everyone who helped in any way to make our 1966 State ASCS Conference a success.

### State ASC Committee

Richard A. Moore, Chairman  
J. Paul Bonneau, Member  
Morris E. LaFrance, Member  
Robert P. Davison, Ex Officio

### State ASCS Office

A. F. Heald, State Executive Director  
George T. Hart, Fieldman  
Edson E. Gifford, Jr., Fieldman



\* \* \* \* \*

The stated purpose of the Food and Agriculture  
Act of 1965 is "to maintain farm income, to  
stabilize prices and assure adequate supplies  
of agricultural commodities, to reduce surpluses,  
lower Government costs and promote foreign trade,  
to afford greater economic opportunity in rural  
areas, and for other purposes."

\* \* \* \* \*



PROGRAM

1966 STATE ASCS CONFERENCE

April 21 and 22, 1966

HOTEL VERMONT, BURLINGTON, VERMONT

First Day

9:00 a.m. Register, get name tags and  
to banquet tickets at  
10:00 a.m. Conference Registration Desk

Conference Opened by  
J. Paul Bonneau, Presiding

10:00 a.m. Conference Goals

Richard A. Moore  
Chairman, State  
ASC Committee

10:15 a.m. Some Challenges to ACP

James Croghan,  
Deputy Director,  
Farmer Programs  
Division, ASCS

Questions and Answers

Recess Milk Break

11:15 a.m. State Planning and Agriculture

David Walker  
Coordinator of  
Resources, Vermont

Questions and Answers

12:00 noon Lunch

Richard A. Moore, Presiding

1:30 p.m. The Sportsman's Stake in Agricultural  
Conservation

Edward Kehoe  
Commissioner, Fish  
and Game Service,  
Vermont

Questions and Answers

First Day (Continued)

2

2:00 p.m. Holding Successful Farmer-Businessman  
Dinners

Moderator:

Edson Gifford, Jr.  
Fieldman, ASCS

Panel Members:

Roland Gervais  
Chairman, Franklin  
Co. ASC Committee

Harold Carpenter  
Chairman, Orange  
Co. ASC Committee

Raymond Bingham  
Chairman, Windsor  
Co. ASC Committee

Questions and Answers

Recess Milk Break

3:00 p.m. New Opportunities for Woodland  
Improvement

Arlo Sterner  
Lamoille County  
Forester  
and  
Joseph Trombley  
Lamoille County  
Farmer

Questions and Answers

3:45 p.m. Current Events at the College of  
Agriculture

Dr. Thomas W. Dowe  
Dean, College of  
Agriculture

Questions and Answers

4:30 p.m. Adjourn

First Day (Continued)

3

CONFERENCE BANQUET

April 21, 1966

6:30 p.m.

Main Dining Room

Toastmaster -- Howard A. Foster  
State Committee Alumnus

PROGRAM

Musical Selections -- Miss Cheryl Blanchette  
Essex Junction, Vermont

Recognition of County Committeemen  
and Others

Guest Speaker      Robert M. Koch  
                         President, National  
                         Limestone Institute Inc.  
                         and  
                         Executive Director,  
                         Committee on the  
                         World Food Crisis

Invited Guest

Lieutenant Governor John L. Daley

Second Day

Morris E. LaFrance, Presiding

9:30 a.m.      Current Defense Activities

A. F. Heald  
State Executive  
Director, ASCS  
and  
Richard Holmes  
Deputy Director,  
Civil Defense,  
Vermont

Questions and Answers

10:00 a.m.      Our Contribution to Consumers

Harry A. Peters  
Northeast Area  
Director, ASCS

Questions and Answers

Second Day (Continued)

4

Recess            Milk Break

10:45 a.m.       Greetings from the Governor

Hon. Philip H. Hoff  
Governor of Vermont

11:00 a.m.       Keeping Up to Date on the Milk  
                         Situation

Richard D. Aplin  
Marketing Adminis-  
trator, Mass.-R.I.  
Milk Marketing Order

Questions and Answers

12:00 noon       Lunch--

Richard A. Moore, Presiding

1:30 p.m.       Discussion of Vermont ASCS Programs

Led by:

A.    ACP, CAP, CRP and LFP

A. F. Heald  
State Executive  
Director, ASCS

B.    Wool, Feed Grain, and County  
         Informational Activities

G. T. Hart  
Fieldman, ASCS

C.    County Informational Meetings

Richard A. Moore  
Chairman, State  
ASC Committee

3:45 p.m.       Adjourn

CONFERENCE GOALS  
by  
Richard A. Moore, Chairman, Vermont State ASC Committee  
at  
Vermont State ASCS Conference  
Hotel Vermont, Burlington, Vermont  
April 21 - 22, 1966

Time certainly goes fast. It doesn't seem possible it was a year ago I was standing here welcoming you people to last year's conference and here we are again. Welcome back! The Committee and staff have put a lot of time into planning this conference. I am sure I don't have to remind you that the rest is up to you. What you get out of the session will be based on how much you put into it.

We have some new committeemen here today and we welcome them. We are, of course, glad to see so many of our old friends back. You might be interested in knowing that the records show that we have nine new county committeemen this year and 164 new community committeemen.

We are justifiably proud of the job you committeemen and office managers have done. It was a pleasure to see the interest in the recent county program planning meetings. The attendance was good, the discussion was good, and we got some good ideas. Before the conference is over, we will review with you some of the things brought out at these meetings.

Based on your recommendations we have again set up our conference so that you will hear from specialists and have a chance to have a discussion period. We have brought some boys in from Washington who, we hope, have some answers.

I want to repeat once again that the success of the meeting today and tomorrow depends upon you. Do your part. Participate and help us do a better job.



## CHALLENGES TO ACP

Talk by James Croghan, Deputy Director,  
Farmer Programs Division, ASCS  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 21, 1966

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, your invitation to participate in your conference is appreciated. I look forward to this conference as an opportunity to learn more about agriculture in Vermont and more important to become better acquainted with Vermont farmers, the committee system of operating farm programs assigned to ASCS, and, of course, to visit with you about the conservation needs of farmland in Vermont and the application of our various programs in meeting these needs.

Before getting into today's subject, let me tell you just what my job consists of and the various conservation programs we administer. First, the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, Sec. 7-17, was enacted February 29, 1936 to replace in part certain provisions of the old Triple A which were invalidated by the Supreme Court on January 6, 1936. This is the basic legislation for all farm programs. It has been amended from time to time and it includes the Feed Grain Program, Great Plains Conservation Program, and other program authority, and, of course, ACP.

The ACP started as a co-op venture between the States and the Federal Government and was extended on a year-to-year basis for the first years of the program. In 1962, the Secretary's authority was again due to expire and Congress granted continuing authority to operate the program. The appropriation now is the governing factor as to whether or not the program will operate and at what level. We have for several years operated the program at the \$220 million level - plus \$30 million for administration. In excess of 1 million farmers participate in the program each year and, of course, tremendous amounts of conservation are accomplished through the combination of ACP cost-sharing and the farmer's contribution.

### EMERGENCY CONSERVATION MEASURES (Emergency ACP)

Public Law 85-58, approved June 21, 1957, authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to make payments to farmers who carry out emergency measures to control wind erosion on farmlands or to rehabilitate farmlands damaged by wind erosion, floods, hurricanes or other natural disasters. The Congress has appropriated at different times a total of 71 million dollars of funds for these measures. To date approximately 55 million dollars of these funds have been expended or committed for emergency conservation measures.

The cost of emergency conservation measures (F-4 practices) is shared with farmers under the emergency ACP in areas designated by the Secretary as disaster areas under Public Law 85-58. The rates of cost-sharing on these measures range from 50 to 80 percent of the cost of carrying out the measures.

During the ECM program year 1965, 545 counties in 36 States were designated as disaster areas under Public Law 85-58 and \$22,539,000 of emergency funds were allocated to State ASC committees for use in the designated counties. These designations were made as a result of earthquake, floods, tornadoes, wind erosion, drought, and fire damage to rangeland and woodland.

Under the 1966 ECM to date, 203 counties in 25 States have been designated and \$7,318,000 of funds have been allocated to State committees for use in the designated counties. As in 1965, these designations are based upon a wide range of disasters.

#### CONSERVATION RESERVE OF THE SOIL BANK

From 1956 through 1960 over 300,000 farmers entered into long-term conservation reserve contracts to divert over 28 million acres from the production of row and grain crops to conservation uses. Under this program, the contract periods ranged from 3 to 10 years. Over one-half of these contracts have now terminated. For 1966, over 123 thousand farms remain under CR contract diverting over 13  $\frac{1}{2}$  million acres. The average annual per acre rate for acreage diverted under CR contract during the peak year, 1960, was \$11.85 per acre. Cost-share assistance was also available to establish approved conservation practices on designated acreage under the CR.

#### CROPLAND CONVERSION PROGRAM

The Congress has authorized this as a pilot program to test the feasibility of diverting cropland acres from the production of row and grain crops to other income-producing uses, such as grazing, wildlife, tree planting, hunting preserves, other recreational activities and soil and water conservation practices. In 1963, this program was offered in 13 States and 41 counties. Under this program 2,800 farmers diverted 114,000 acres to pasture grasses and 14,000 acres to trees. Also under the 1963 CCP, 117 recreation projects were approved. The 1964-65 CCP was offered in 100 selected counties in 36 States; 5,450 agreements were signed diverting over 318,000 acres.

The 1966 pilot CCP is being offered in 21 States and 67 counties. Signup is not yet complete.

#### CROPLAND ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM

Signup is now under way. The last program report (and this was as of March 25) reflects that over 47,000 farmers have applied to divert almost 3 million acres from specific allotment, feed grain, and non-allotment crops to conservation and recreational uses. This is a non-use concept, except for recreation and there are two new phases to CAP. They are as follows:

1. Grants to public agencies to purchase cropland for parks, open space, and control of air and water pollution, etc.
2. Incentive payments to farmers with CAP agreements to permit public access for hunting, fishing, hiking, and trapping.

#### APPALACHIAN LAND STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION PROGRAM

The ALSCP was authorized by Section 203 of the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965. The general purposes and objectives of the program are to promote economic growth of the Region and to promote the conservation and development of the region's soil and water resources. The State Governments designate program areas and recommend the program for the State.

Department agencies work on program formulation with State people, as requested, usually through the ACP Development Group. After a program has been approved by USDA and ARC, it is administered by ASC State and county committees. SCS provides technical services, as does the State Forestry Department.

The allocation for this fiscal year is \$7 million; the budget estimate for 1967 is \$4,375,000.

Assistance to farmers is in cost-sharing up to 80% through long-term contracts for needed conservation practices including conservation aspects of recreation projects. Emphasis is on use of treated acreage. No diversion or non-use is required.

The Economic Development Administration has approved going ahead with planning other regional programs for the following areas: The Ozarks, Upper Great Lakes, New England. Consideration is being given to additional areas. When a plan is completed for an area a specific program will be proposed to the Congress. Agriculture is expected to make its contribution to the planning effort.

All of our programs are important and some will naturally have more application to a given area than others. However, the programs with which I work pretty generally have widespread application - and ACP, of course, is applicable to all areas. This is the only program administered by every ASCS county office in the nation. This is because ACP is the only program administered by ASCS for which all farmers are eligible (a farmer, of course, meeting the definition of an agricultural producer). I said eligible, all farmers may be eligible but you county committeemen know that with limited funds all requests cannot be approved and furthermore that all of the conservation problems cannot be corrected this year or possibly even not in the next few years. It is with respect to this area of responsibility that I want to address my remarks today in reviewing with you my assigned subject.

### Challenges to ACP

Let's look at ACP and see just what the program is and what we can logically expect in results if the program is properly and intelligently administered.

To be sure ACP is a conservation program, we all agree to that. The basic ACP legislation provides for the farmer-elected committee system of which all of you are products and which provides the type of administrative organization needed to properly administer the ACP and accomplish the great amount of conservation actually performed each year. The county committee in discharging their responsibility must necessarily draw a hard line in approving requests.

You, gentlemen, are to be commended for the fine job you have done over the years. Obviously you have acted wisely in approving requests. I would not even venture a suggestion as to how you might improve. You are well informed of conditions in your own communities and I know that your considerations and deliberations do indeed result in the greatest amount of conservation benefits for both farmers and the public.

During the past several years important changes have been made in the National ACP. These changes were intended to enable State and county people to exercise a greater degree of flexibility in assigning priorities and budgeting funds. These changes include the authority for Special Projects - the 15% reserve - the inclusion of wildlife and beautification practices - increased cost-share rates for low-income farmers and the change in considering the contribution of ineligible persons.

Perhaps we would accomplish more in the area of challenges to ACP if we confine our discussion to these recent changes. Just what are these changes and how can they be used and for what purposes. First, let's take the reserve, because this is the budgetary device which will enable county committeemen to approve cost-shares for practices or projects which they otherwise might not feel free to approve.

With the terrific demand for cost-shares by farmers it may not always be possible to divert funds to a project of community-wide benefit including such measures as beautification, prevention of water and air pollution, etc. Or perhaps you may want to make a special effort to encourage people who haven't been doing conservation work to undertake at least one conservation practice with the assistance of ACP cost-shares. This sounds good and it is good, but it does mean that less money will be available to assist those farmers who have been performing conservation work and who may still have work to do, and these are the people who know assistance is available. They will file requests. With this reserve we are merely earmarking a small portion of your funds to be used for these special cases. This reserve should relieve the pressure so to speak, on at least a portion of the total allocation, and encourage our Development Groups to reach out and grasp some of these problems that have not been treated in the past and which likely won't be treated in the future unless a concentrated effort is made to treat them.

Now this takes some doing, initiative certainly, more important is knowledge, a knowledge of the county, the area to be treated, a knowledge of the problem, the resources to be conserved and the treatment to be applied to bring about the maximum amount of conservation for both the farmer and the public.

Probably the most important factor is the people. How will it help them? Very little? How about increased rates? Will it help the individuals a great deal? How about decreased rates? Are the farmers financially able to pay their cost of the practice? These are questions that only people who have a first-hand knowledge of the conditions can answer and act on.

It's true that some changes have been made in ACP to simplify administration; let's call these additions or added authority. Really we still have the same old program as far as regulations and program provisions and policy are concerned. ACP funds may be used only to conserve water, soil and woodland on farmland with farmers responsible for the practices.

The phase of ACP we are talking about today reflects the thinking of the people in the Department of Agriculture who believe that we can and must recognize the needs of people perhaps a little more than we have in the past. People like Secretary Freeman, our Administrator, Horace Godfrey, our Deputy Administrator, Ray Fitzgerald, and the Director of the Farmer Programs Division, Everett Felber. These men along with your State Committeemen,

State Executive Director, Al Heald, and Miss Hutchison, your ACP Specialist, believe that if we are going to succeed in conserving our resources, perhaps we should face up to the fact that farm families living on the land must be financially able to do such things as follow the proper cropping patterns and land uses to conserve the land.

It is not enough any more in this high-cost, mechanized era to make available cost-shares for conservation practices that did the job a few years ago. Times change, so do needs. Oh, the farmland in Vermont still needs limestone if clover is to grow. The land in New Mexico still needs leveling, if the irrigation water is to flow to all areas of the field. The low spots in a corn field on a farm above a town or city will need to be drained if a full crop is to be expected in years of above normal precipitation and the water is to be disposed of in an orderly fashion.

We have been cost-sharing these practices for years and they are good practices and have accomplished vast amounts of conservation. Let me suggest some things that some State people have done to help people in such a way that the conservation benefits are acquired and the economic opportunities are enhanced to the point where farmers are better able to carry out some of these practices or additional conservation practices on their own.

In the arid areas of our country, water is valuable and everything that can be done to conserve it must be done. Our land leveling practice along with our other water conservation practices have been of great assistance and these practices must continue but we must do more.

As time passes, water seems to have a way of becoming more scarce in arid areas. Some land goes completely out of production because of lack of water. Quite often crops are lost or seriously damaged because of a shortage of water late in the season.

Through pooling agreements, special projects, increased cost-share rates, loans to farmers, and in some cases contributions by State or local Governments, our State and county people have been able to develop and construct rather elaborate water impoundments and transmission systems that not only conserve more water but get it to the farmers who need it, when they need it and in the amounts needed. In addition, there may be recreational and city and rural water possibilities which can be developed. A project of this type takes money, large amounts of money; if funds are used for projects/<sup>such</sup> as this, naturally less money is available for (in this case leveling) on individual farms. The point is, if we have completed a project of this type we have accomplished a tremendous amount of basic conservation. Remember the purpose of the leveling in the first place was to conserve water. Through this project we have conserved the water and we have conserved it all the way to the farm. The farmers have more water, they can reasonably expect to produce a full crop every year. Are their water conservation problems over? No, they must still conserve that water in every way they can. With the improved economic situation the farmers can and will do some of the things that need to be done to conserve the valuable resource they now have. This includes leveling.

We have some wonderful projects of this nature. In one area of the Southwest, our people have been able to reorganize an irrigation system originally constructed by early Spanish settlers. These are small farmers, many of them with two or three acres. They produce specialized crops as chili peppers, and for years have lived in poverty, probably more because of a

lack of water than anything else. They have a good market for their crops if they can just produce them. Many of the old ditches and canals were so overgrown with brush and trees that the water simply didn't get to the crops. Ditch lining and other practices have changed all this. These people now have/new lease on life. They have water to grow their crops. The State and county committees will probably continue this type of project and if they do it will mean less money for some of the old practices or participants.

Let's talk about that wet field, drainage or the disposal of excess water. There is nothing more discouraging than continued loss of crops through water standing just a few days too long at a critical time. Usually this is the best soil on the farm and very often if the water could be removed just two or 3 days sooner the crop could be saved. These low spots are unsightly, a source of weeds and a liability where an asset should exist.

How do we treat a problem like this? We can drain by tile, open ditch or by sloping or we could go back a little further and through a comprehensive watershed program keep that water off the field in the beginning and possibly lick our erosion problem before it starts.

This would be a good problem to look at and consider from the standpoint of a special project. What are the problems? Well, obviously it's water, in the wrong place, but water is a resource. Can a city or rural water system be complemented by this project? Can some flood control measures be obtained and for whom? The city or farmers? Will the flood control measures primarily benefit the farmland or a city water works or park? What are the recreational possibilities? I mention all of these possibilities because they are part of the project and while all this is good and we are for it, we can use ACP funds only for specific purposes, namely, for the conservation of soil, water and woodland resources on farmland or for the benefit of farmland. Furthermore, we can use ACP funds to share costs only on these practices which wouldn't otherwise be carried out.

We have had some problems involving special projects where some of these more comprehensive projects have been developed. This is to be expected in anything new like this. Just let me caution you on some problems that may arise. When you have projects involving farmers and non-farmers as well as farmland and non-farmland, you must determine just how much of the project is eligible for ACP cost-sharing. In the type project just mentioned, you may have some practices which warrant increased cost-share rates. You must determine which of the practices warrant the increased rates. Cost-share rates cannot just automatically be increased to show we are in favor of the project. Rates can be increased only if there is justification for increasing them. I want to take just a minute here to impress upon you the real meaning of special project.

They are just what the name implies - special. The National ACP procedure provides for the funding of these projects. This means that these funds won't be available for the uses for which they were previously used. In other words, we might say we are picking out special problems for special consideration. This has always been the concept of ACP in obtaining the greatest amount of conservation for the funds used. Now, when we talk about increasing cost-share rates with respect to special projects, we are getting into a new area and this is what the new authority provides for. This is one reason these must come to Washington for approval. Really, this is about the only phase of the special projects that does need Washington approval.

ACP cost-shares can be increased for special projects only for the same reasons that cost-shares can be increased under regular ACP. It's reasonable to assume that in a given special project some of the more critical practices may require added incentive. However, if we are going to depend on increased rates for all or even most of the practices to assure participation in the project, we are missing the point of special projects.

We have said that these special projects must be of a community-wide interest and benefit. They must be planned by all of the various Federal and State agricultural agencies. They must be publicized in the various news media, and, of course, the people themselves must want the project. Now if we just increase all cost-share rates for all practices in the county handbook for the persons who may be located within the boundaries of the project, you can see that we are not following through on the special project concept. We must cost-share with farmers on farmland only for conservation practices that would not otherwise be performed. Treat special projects with care, consider them carefully. They can be helpful but if improperly handled they can cast a reflection on your whole program.

The cover and limestone in Vermont was the third example I mentioned, I told you I wouldn't suggest any improvements for your program. It would be presumptuous for me to do so. I know, as you know, that you will have to adjust your program to ever changing needs. In the examples I have mentioned, I haven't advocated the discontinuance of any practice. On the contrary, my two examples have resulted in an increase in the practices and consequently an increase in ACP funds needed. We also accomplished a marked increase in conservation accomplishments. I'm sure that when you folks take a good hard look at your cover practices and try to improve them, it has shown a marked change in your A-4 or lime practice. I mention cover and limestone because we have stated in the second of our general program principles that preference shall be given to practices that help establish permanent cover. Certainly you in Vermont have done an outstanding job in this area. The bulk of your funds are used for these practices. This is good.

In Vermont, also, you have the largest percentage of your farmers participating in the ACP of any State in the Nation. You are recognized as having an outstanding ACP in your State. This is the result of hard work, intelligent planning and an ever changing program to meet ever changing conditions and needs.

As I stated earlier, I have not come here to advise you to make changes in your program or to do things differently. I came here as a co-worker in Washington to commend you on your very fine effort.

In meeting the challenges to ACP in the years to come, I encourage you to use all of the tools which the program provides, to adopt the new authorities and to give to those of us in Washington your best thinking with respect to recommendations for changes in the National program.

Challenges to ACP. What are they? In considering this question, I can only conclude that the problems today are about the same as they were 30-odd years ago. I believe the conservation needs can actually be met with more confidence and assurance of success today than 30 years ago.

The principal difference today can be found in the nature of our whole operation in the field of conservation. As a result of our success, we are expected to do more and do it better. If we are to do better, our farmers must do better, because after all they contribute as much in a monetary way as does the Federal Government - with this combination of resources, monetary and otherwise, furnished by our farmers and Government. Those of you in this room must continue to exercise outstanding leadership in administering our conservation programs. Can you continue to build on the success of the past? Can you, in the face of all the competition for dollars from both the farmers and taxpayers, continue to weld together all the elements needed for a successful program?

You have in the past. You have done the job by employing a thousand and one different devices that add up to administration, the farmer-elected committee system of administration. Can you continue this tradition? This is the real challenge to ACP. From my vantage point (and I see all the State operations) I can tell you that Vermont will meet the challenge - and that those persons knowledgeable in conservation throughout the Nation will continue to look to you folks here in Vermont as leaders in this noble effort - which we call conservation.

It has been a pleasure and privilege to participate in your conference. Thank you.

## STATE PLANNING AND AGRICULTURE

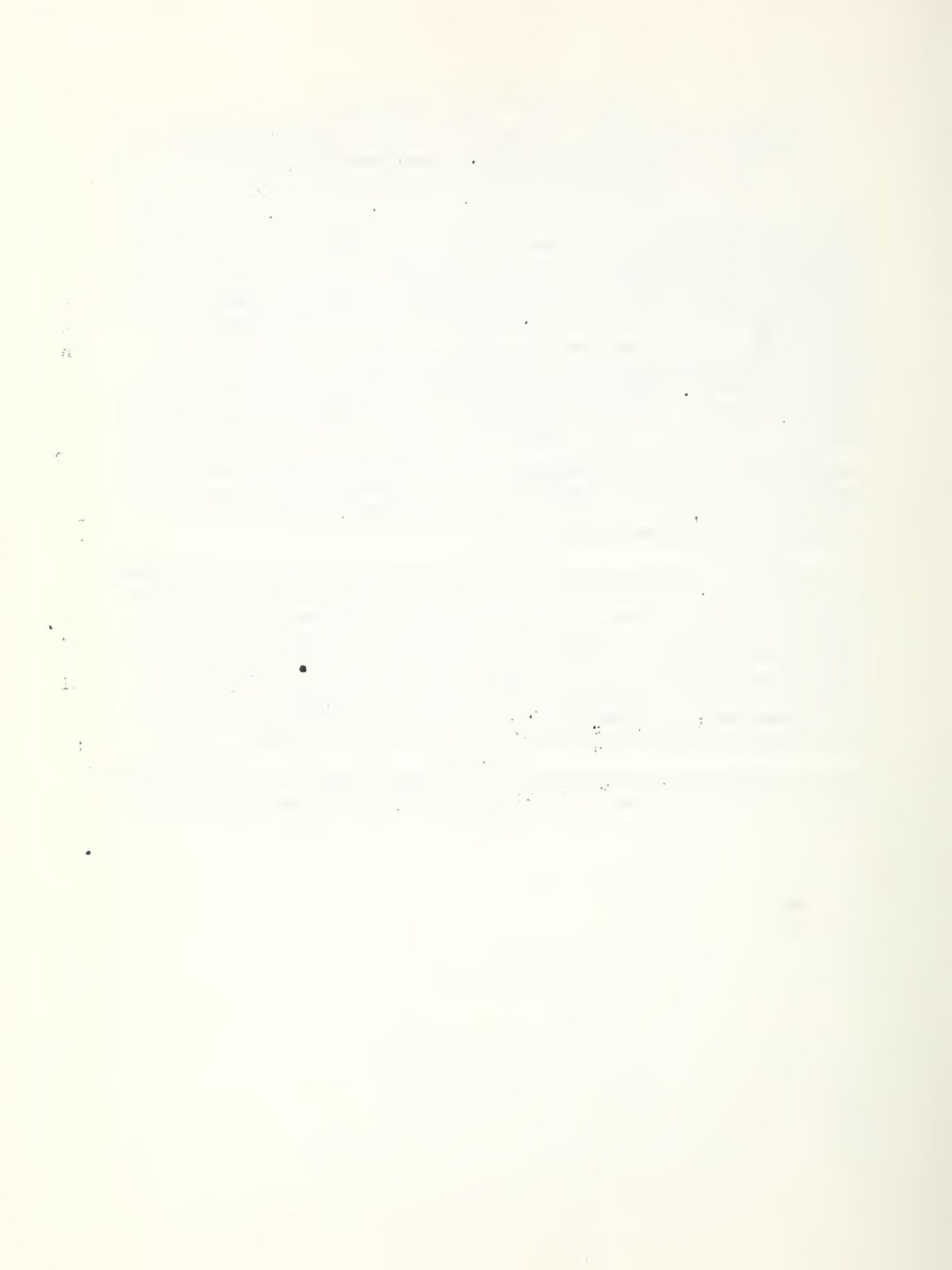
Talk by David Walker, Coordinator of Resources for Vermont  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 21, 1966

Until recently there has not been a good understanding between the State planners and the people of Vermont. Planning has to do with the public interest and is done at the State level in the Central Planning Office which was formed in 1963. Actually, the central planning work is just now getting well under way as it takes considerable time to become established in the State planning field. The State planning approach includes planning assistance for towns and communities which request this help. There are State and Federal funds available for town and regional planning. Planning is based on an inventory which needs to be taken first and then on the analysis of a great deal of information.

Currently much thought in planning is going into the need for capital improvements for our State agencies. The old Pavilion Hotel has been purchased, and there are other ideas in the works for providing for additional State agency office space.

In the field of recreation planning, much is being done within the State. An attempt is being made to devise a scheme above and beyond any present ideas to utilize our land and water resources to best advantage. The Otter Creek Watershed Development is an example of using a great natural resource for the benefit of the public. This plan looks forward to the State's providing access to the banks of the creek, by rights-of-way, and easements along the stream so that it can be used by the public. At the present time, a recreation plan for the Town of Vergennes includes a swimming pool which will be constructed partially by Federal funds.

There is much need for coordination in planning, and to develop the regional approach for the best use of our resources for the people of the State.



## THE SPORTSMAN'S STAKE IN AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION

Talk by Edward Kehoe, Commissioner,  
Fish and Game Service, Vermont  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 21, 1966

The sportsman's stake is very high in the Agricultural Conservation Program today.

To have a continuous successful program in hunting and fishing, we must work together with Agriculture -- "The Farmer." We must encourage him to stay in business because he is the landowner who keeps the fields open which are so valuable to our wildlife. The trend of selling farms in Vermont in the last few years has increased tremendously because of high prices. These farms are being allowed to grow up and are producing poor habitat for our large deer herd.

We must as a department take some of the following steps to help the farmer:

- (1) Stream improvement to help not only better fishing but a continuous supply of clean water for farm stock.
- (2) Parking areas for sportsmen on our many rural roads, so as to eliminate parking in the fields and in driveways of the landowners.
- (3) Trash barrels to stop the litter problems.
- (4) Turnstiles to stop tearing down of fences.
- (5) An educational and publicity program to educate all, both young and old.
- (6) A Conservation Program to start in September for all of our schools.
- (7) A boys conservation school this summer for boys twelve to fifteen.

The following is a list of manners all of us can use when using private land for recreation:

The manner in which you conduct yourself, and the consideration you show the landowner may well determine whether you or anyone else can hunt on his land in the future.

Before hunting on private property it is always best to secure the landowner's permission. This should be taken care of well ahead of the hunting season. If permission is refused, there is probably a good reason. Courteously expressing your regret may change the picture for the next fellow or when you ask again.

If the landowner does give you permission, make sure that you abide by his requests as to where not to hunt. In fact, it's good manners to ask him for any restrictions he may have. They will very likely be nominal and justified.

Damage to fences and equipment and danger to the immediate family and livestock are two of the landowner's principal concerns. One irresponsible hunter can cause the closure of thousands of acres. Make it your business to protect the interests of your host.

If you hunt with dogs, make sure that they are kept under control - preferably on leash until you have received permission to hunt. A dog that harasses livestock or pets is one of the surest causes for denial of hunting privileges.

Don't try to impress a landowner with your importance - it's his good will you are interested in. He is as independent, or more so, than you.

Much ill will has been incurred by hunters who help themselves to farm produce. Even if it looks as though it will go unused, it still belongs to the landowner. To take it without permission or without purchasing amounts to stealing. An offer to purchase products that are for sale can often better your guarantee of hunting privileges. Remember - the unauthorized taking of a few cents worth of produce can cause the loss of untold thousands of dollars worth of hunting opportunity.

Stay away from livestock - the farmer knows how to handle them, you don't. They can be dangerous to you in some cases and in any event their disturbance is irritating to the landowner.

Gates in fences were put there for the landowner's convenience. You can save on his fence maintenance by using them - but LEAVE THEM THE WAY YOU FOUND THEM. There's nothing that will make a farmer more angry than to have to round up livestock released by a careless hunter on a busy harvest day.

Protect the landowner's trees and shrubs, he values them. A careless gun discharged in an orchard can damage a valuable fruit-producing tree. Trees and shrubs may be a part of wildlife or forestry management on the farm. Do not cut or break them.

Finally, I think all groups should use all available funds for both stream and land improvement and work together to achieve the best program for conservation that is possible.

HOLDING SUCCESSFUL FARMER-BUSINESSMAN DINNERS  
Highlights of the Panel Discussion  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 21, 1966

Panel Members: Roland G. Gervais, Chairman, Franklin County ASC Committee  
Harold A. Carpenter, Chairman, Orange County ASC Committee  
Raymond Bingham, Chairman, Windsor County ASC Committee

Moderator: Emery Gifford, ASCS Fieldman

This is the third time we have had, as part of the program at a State Conference, a panel discussion with county people as panel members.

For several years now the State Committee and their staff, as well as many county committeemen, have been concerned over the misunderstanding which exists in the field concerning ASCS agricultural programs, their purpose, their intent and their accomplishments. Today, with a lesser number of people engaged in agriculture, support of our agricultural programs by non-farming interests is essential to insure continuation of the agricultural economy.

Creating an atmosphere of understanding, better cooperation and support from business interests in our county areas are primary objectives of farmer-businessman dinners conducted annually by Franklin, Orange and Windsor County ASC County and Community Committeemen. Their success should encourage all other counties to adopt an annual program of this nature to engage public support of agricultural programs at the county level.

Franklin County has been holding successful farmer-businessman dinners for 15 years with attendance about 140. Complimentary tickets are given to businessmen of the area. Community committeemen are encouraged to attend with their wives. Partial financial assistance for this program comes from business advertising in the annual ACP Handbook. A varied program is offered highlighting State and county ASCS activities, with a current/<sup>Topic</sup>speaker and entertainment of various types to make the evening one of great success.

Orange County has been holding very successful farmer-businessman dinners jointly with Windsor County in a business area serving farmers in both counties. Although the number of businessmen who participate is small, less than twenty, better understanding and cooperation exist in this area between farmers and businessmen as evidenced by their faithful, continued support in conduct of the day-to-day business of the area. Orange County also stressed the need for a varied program to include both information and entertainment.

Windsor County has been holding two very successful farmer-businessman dinners each year for several years -- one jointly with Orange County -- the other in the Southern geographical section of Windsor County. This county also raises funds through advertising media in the annual ACP Handbook. The selection of a toastmaster for the banquet and meeting is one of the keys to their annual success.

All members of the panel gave high praise to the county office managers who devotedly give many hours of work and thought into making these affairs successful. Without hesitation they stated the county office manager is the principal catalyst leading to success in this endeavor.

In conclusion, farmer-businessman dinners should be a mandatory part of each county's annual program of work. An informed public will give adequate and knowledgeable support to continuance of needed farm programs and furthering agriculture in the county area.

## NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOODLAND IMPROVEMENT

Talk by Arlo Sterner, Lamoille County Forester  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 21, 1966

It is a great honor for me to be asked here today to talk to you about new opportunities for woodland improvement; I appreciate the opportunity.

In my estimation, there are three ways to look at any new woodland or woodland improvement opportunity. It is first to be determined as to its effect on better land use, secondly taxation, and thirdly as to its need in a given area. Better land use is a definite plan for any given acre. Smart planning is needed to be done by those experienced and trained to do a specific job.

As we all know, land of every type is reverting to recreational units, investment units, and speculation units. These units should be producing a product of given nature while the big transition is taking place in this "Great Society."

We are currently confronted by increased usage of land. It is estimated that by the year 2020 the acreage per person will be 1 person to every 1.5 acres of land. Right now in Massachusetts the ratio is 1 to 1 or 400 people per square mile. This we most certainly are not used to.

Let us look at the type of people using the land. There are the camper type, bird-watcher type, hunters and fishermen, pulpwood and sawmill type, plus the rich and the poor. These all have an impact on the landowner for sure.

We have today the camper. Why? Because there are more people, that have more income, that have more leisure, and a much better transportation system than ever before. Twelve percent or 40 million out of 190 million people are now camping. By 1970 this will triple. Campers are eager to learn and as they learn we have to be more prepared to sell them our product, the way we would like them to accept it.

The "bird-watcher" type group claims we should give all animals an equal environmental chance, that timber production or Christmas trees are not most important and that we should put our paint guns away. We as foresters do believe in multiple use, however, let this not be forgotten.

Today one out of every fifteen people is a hunter and one out of every five is a fisherman. Since quality hunting and fishing must come from natural woodlands, it is necessary these people have a place to go and that they have access when they get there. Group purchase of land tracts is coming.

Currently 92% of the land owned by forest industries is open plus most all State and Federal land in New England. More private land is becoming closed to public use. We must now manage our land not only for timber production but also for public use. If this is not done, the Government is going to take our land away from us.

Taxation, my second objective, plays a most important role when thinking of woodland improvement opportunities. Along this train of thought, we must also figure that soon fee usage is going to come into the picture. Due to increased land valuation, taxes will rise even higher. Local listers may have to change their feelings and thinking as it is not yet the bird-watcher, hunter, fisherman, or nature lover who pays the taxes. We who own and manage land do not receive much rent from the above tenants but a lot of them keep telling us what is wrong with the premises. We must have a product to sell; the product, of course, has to pay for taxes, interest, and a little something for our time and investment involved.

Taxation of forest land is a decided determining factor for many wood-using industries in this State. With the number of people who place only recreational value on the land it is assumed they know what they are paying for and are willing to do so. Improvement is a nasty thing to some of them; esthetics must mean more than money; they hate to see big, branchy, cull trees girdled or poisoned. To the woodland owner whose land is an investment it is necessary for him to keep each acre in the most productive state, new opportunities are necessary. The land speculator must also have an opportunity or at least a new opportunity to grow and harvest a crop while he is waiting to take an inflated dollar from the "down-country" member of suburbia who feels he must become a non-resident owner in this great State of Vermont. Once, most generally, the "down-country" cousin is here he finds or thinks the land should be doing something more than giving him a good view; naturally he thinks of forestry. Oftentimes the owner's conception of forestry is tree planting or lumbering. In many cases he cannot do either, the woodlot has been practically clear-cut by the previous owner and he wants to keep the open land open for his view purpose. The former pastures are beginning to grow more dense with young tree growth and it will be a long time before a crop of pulpwood or small sawlogs is there. A need for new opportunity is present.

Needs are therefore the next item of discussion. Man's need for various items has caused him to do many things including ways to keep land open without conventional methods such as grazing, finding better utilization techniques which will allow him to use poorer raw materials, and even to make a "tin" Christmas tree.

The new ACP practice 18(f) titled, "Improvement of former pasture land," and in field talk called "the Christmas tree practice" is an example of most everything I have been talking about. Campers do like to see a good stand of Christmas trees and will travel a distance to see one. Bird-watchers find they can get closer to various birds in Christmas tree stands and may not have to use binoculars, photography is easier too. Hunters oftentimes find game intermingled with Christmas trees. Pulpwood and sawmill people do not have the adverse attitude toward the Christmas tree operator they used to have, even the forester has become so well accepted he cannot get all his work done. It is the ultimate goal for a poor man to be able to also have a good Christmas tree. A need has been fulfilled by the use of this practice, not only as far as better land use goes, but also a method or means by which a landowner can diversify his operations to help defray his taxes. This new practice enables a man with a small acreage to fill the great need for better quality plus more Christmas trees. Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, the upper peninsula of Michigan, and Canada are the only places where balsam fir grows naturally. In my travels through the United States attending various meetings, primarily Christmas tree meetings, I

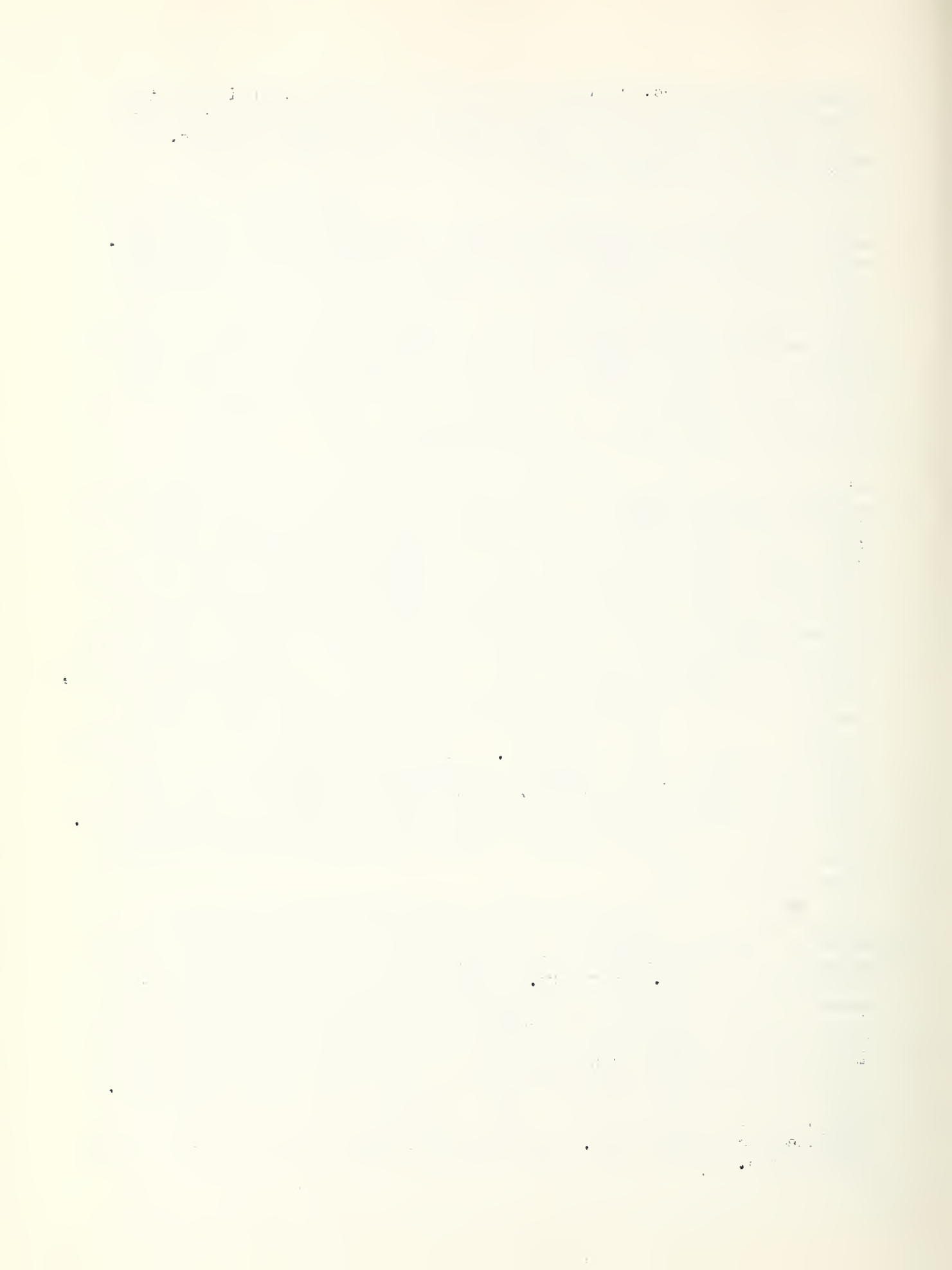
am immediately asked, when people find I'm from Vermont, if I can get them a load of good balsam fir Christmas trees. I'm firmly convinced we have what the Nation wants and personally know we have a long way to go. This new practice has allowed us to "get our foot in the door." Now more individual contact is necessary.

The Christmas tree practice is not to be confused with woodland improvement as it is not strictly woodland improvement in the true sense of the word. Several phases of Christmas tree culture are detrimental to true softwood, forest management practices. Correct forest pruning should be done with a saw only; the Christmas tree practice allows use of an axe due to the short rotation and the need to get the work done faster and at less cost. Also many more trees per acre have to be worked on than in other management practices. Thinning is much more severe in this practice than where one is thinning for a crop of pulpwood or eventual timber trees. The Christmas tree practice is one all in its own, and is not to be conducted or integrated on the same acre with other forest practices. It should be done in a specific area under intensive management.

The new practice did not come about from quick, overnight thinking, it actually has been coming for a long time. I prefer to speak from experience rather than theory and can truly say this. I, myself, as a very small spoke in the Christmas tree world wheel, started in 1946 growing trees specifically for Christmas trees with a college friend. Since that time I have been learning from my own mistakes and mainly from what others did or did not do. There is nothing like a sad experience to be a good teacher. The new practice or opportunity to practice has, therefore, come about through close association with many producers. Much time, money, and effort has been put forth by a great number of people both in Vermont, New Hampshire, and other States to formulate a practice of this type. I'm very happy to have had the idea originate from Lamoille County through efforts of Joe Trombley of Morrisville, John Young of Wolcott, members and officers of the N.H.-Vt. Christmas Tree Association. Success or failure of the practice will not be known for several years in my estimation. Some people do not yet fully understand what the practice entails while others have done a very good job and plan to continue, even expand over and above ACP acreage limits. The practice has definitely been an incentive for various types of people, from lawyers to farmers, insurance men to sugar-makers, and even from game wardens to foresters.

During the past year out of 71 sign-ups, 13 completed the practice in Lamoille County. Completion was therefore 18.3 percent. The cost per acre varied in Lamoille County from \$92.32 per acre to \$21.70 per acre; the average cost was \$49.81 per acre. Costs varied due to conditions or the amount of work to be done in the woods and also to the age of the person doing the work. People from fifteen years of age to seventy years of age were working. Little shearing on improved stands was done because shearing is a much more tricky technique and the cost of good shearing equipment is rather expensive. This phase deserves more attention this coming year.

In conclusion, I feel this is a very worthwhile practice, it should be continued and improved upon. One more opportunity for improvement has been accomplished.



## NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOODLAND IMPROVEMENT

Talk by Joseph Trombley, Christmas  
Tree Grower in Lamoille County  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 21, 1966

There are definite changes in our form of agriculture in Vermont. The small farmer and landowner have been going out of business and others are interested in finding a better use for the land.

The Christmas tree program provides a good use for old pastures. We have an ideal climate to grow balsam Christmas trees. People in many other States would like to grow balsam, but they don't have the climate or the soil conditions to grow them like we can here in Vermont.

The demand now is for improved Christmas trees, those trees where some work has been done in shearing and shaping to provide a good quality tree for the market. Several years ago there used to be 50 to 75 carloads of wild unimproved trees sent out of the Lamoille Valley. This last year I shipped only three carloads of unimproved trees, the rest were all trees that had been managed and worked into high quality trees. The people today demand a better tree, so today the producer must do some improvement work. Shearing, basal trimming, fertilization, and cultivation practices are necessary to produce a good tree.

The demand for the type of improved tree is inexhaustible. We cannot meet the demand. The location of the farm growing these trees is not important. If a producer grows a good tree, the buyer will come and get it no matter where it's located. There is no danger of getting an oversupply of high quality trees. They are doing improvement in Christmas tree work up in Canada. I think that many of the old meadows could well produce a crop of good quality Christmas trees rather than growing up to worthless brush.

I have marketed Scotch pine that I planted six or seven years ago. Some of these have been sheared twice and some three times. When I started planting these trees, I figured that if I could get 50¢ a tree I would be doing very well. Last year I sold many of the trees for \$1.50 to \$2.00 apiece. Many of these trees were only table trees. The \$2.00 price was received for trees five to six feet high. We were completely sold out ten days before Christmas, and the good balsam was all gone by the first of December.

Most every farm has some land that is too steep and is well adapted for the growing of a profitable crop of Christmas trees. I think that this practice 18(f) to help with improving this land for tree production is a good one. The only fault I have to find is that it was not started 15 years ago. Many of the areas where we used to cut Christmas trees have grown up to brush. We need to do more work in cutting out the gray birch and brush that interfere with Christmas tree growing. I think that the improvement of wild trees with the assistance of this practice offers a real fine supplemental income for people who own this type of land, and I am very sure that there will not be an oversupply of good top quality trees.



CURRENT EVENTS AT THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
Talk by Dr. Thomas W. Dowe, Dean  
College of Agriculture and Home Economics, UVM  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 21, 1966

I am very happy to be here with you and have a chance to visit with you about the College of Agriculture and Home Economics.

The College of Agriculture and Home Economics is divided into four divisions -- Resident Instruction, Extension, Research, and the Regulatory Service. Bob Davison is Director of the Extension Service. The problems that we have faced are that our services are supported by Federal, State, and town funds. There have been changes in the allocation of Federal funds, and in some cases we object to this. President McCune, myself, and Bob Davison are working with the people in Washington to try to get some of these problems ironed out. I think that the College of Agriculture must be responsive to the needs of this State, and that the programs originate with the people on the land, in the State, and in the counties so that the programs can be most responsive to the needs of the people. I believe that locally developed programs are more responsive to the people's needs.

Our building program at the University is very active. The third phase of the Medical College construction has things pretty well torn up. Ground has recently been broken for a new Life Science Building. The Life Science Building is being financed by both Federal and State funds. This building will house the Botany and the Zoology Departments. The new Livestock and Research Center on Spear Street is also being completed. The special session of the legislature appropriated additional funds so that we can go ahead with the completion of this complex. The labor shortage is affecting construction in the Burlington area and costs are increasing. The bids for the final phase of the Livestock Center will be going out soon. We welcome any of you at any time to stop in and look over the new buildings at the University Farm. We have needed this new livestock building complex for quite a while and are real proud of it.

We now have Federal monies passed for some lake research and have acquired a boat for doing some of this research on Lake Champlain this summer. This research will pertain to water. We have agreed to start research in the area of water in Lake Champlain and the Lake Champlain basin. We hope to be out on the lake with our \$17,000 converted fishing boat this summer to take samples of water organisms as well as coarse samples at the bottom of the lake. We think that the lake is one of our most important resources and needs considerable study. Much of this research work will be done in Malletts Bay this coming summer. We will try to determine the rate of change of water in Malletts Bay, the rate of change in dissolved phosphate, nitrates, the effect of fertilizer on upper watersheds, etc. We look forward to acquiring answers through research to many of the problems in Lake Champlain and the Champlain basin.

Agriculture is still one of the most important and basic industries that we have in Vermont. If we look at the whole world food situation, the world food crisis, food for peace, and other commitments, this, as time

goes on, is going to demand a great deal of our talented and educated people. We are currently in a state of change from that of a surplus problem to a problem of growing enough food to meet world needs. This will need the talents of all our trained people to cope with the problems in the years ahead.

There is an increase in applications for admissions. Of the applications that have been received up to February in agriculture, there are 110 out-of-State as compared to 88 out-of-State the year before. The in-State applications have increased from 48 a year ago to 65 this February. We are going into a full four-year forestry course here at UVM, and this accounts for some of the increase in the applications. Generally, our College of Agriculture and Home Economics enjoys an increase in the total applications for enrollment from year to year, and we can look forward to an increase in this trend in the years to come.

## ACP AND THE WORLD FOOD CRISIS

Talk by Robert M. Koch, President, National  
Limestone Institute, Inc. and  
Executive Director, Committee on the World Food Crisis  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont April 21, 1966

I have long been a friend of ACP, starting my work in the county AAA office in Massachusetts, then later going to Washington as Specialist in Conservation Materials. I am indebted to Mr. Heald for his invitation to be here. I have always admired what you people have done here in the State of Vermont.

Vermont is the leader in the Nation in the field of conservation, with more conservation per farm. A larger percentage of farms here participate in the program than in any other State in the country. We cannot even start to have a good conservation program in the humid areas without the adequate use of limestone. The Conservation work which has been done under the ACP Program will never be forgotten for the good that it has done. You do this conservation, not for the farmers, but for the consumers. We must do something about conservation of our soil for future generations.

The financial support for the Agricultural Conservation Program in Washington has changed radically over the years. Even though the administration this year has recommended a hundred million dollars Nationally for ACP, this bill will go through the House at two hundred fifty million dollars without even a roll call vote. This is indicative of the support that the Agricultural Conservation Program has in the Congress at the present time. The two hundred fifty million for 1967 will go through the Congress almost as if it was automatic this year. This is a change from a few years ago when the restoration of the appropriation to two hundred fifty million won by only three votes. ACP today is a bipartisan-supported program, and I hope that we will be able to keep it this way.

It will not be long before the people of this Nation will be well aware of the things that have happened since 1936. The world food crisis, with particular attention on India, will bring to the fore the need for greater production world-wide. The population explosion in the world is borne out by the following figures: From the year zero to 1900 there were  $1\frac{1}{2}$  billion people in this world. From 1900 to 1965 this increased to 3 billion. From 1965 to 2000 it is anticipated that the world population will increase to 6 billion people. We are going to have to learn an awful lot in the short span of 34 years to take care of the people in this country, let alone the increased number of people in the world.

It seems to me that we ought to turn loose the entire agricultural production of this Nation, to use not simply for food, but as part of foreign aid policy to help the people around the world develop their own form of Government. Everybody knows that this is going to cost money; it is going to be a hard time to get funds to do this. I'd like to point out, however, that we are currently spending at the rate of \$15 billion a year to fight the Vietnamese war. We can do a lot with this amount in using our food and agricultural know-how for world peace. We should export our food and technical know-how to those countries who are willing to help themselves. The President has already asked for a billion dollars for an expanded Food for Freedom Program. For our own benefit, I think it's better to export 5 to 10 billion dollars worth of our food and technical know-how

rather than 15 billion dollars a year for carrying on a war. I believe that it's going to be possible by using our human ingenuity to adequately feed the increasing population. However, we will need to put our agricultural plant to work completely and send our know-how overseas.

When we started the Committee on the World Food Crisis, we featured the world hunger situation in our quarterly magazine. We hoped that this would focus attention upon the world problem, and actually we have accomplished in the last six months what we had hoped to accomplish in the first five years of the Committee on the World Food Crisis. I am absolutely convinced that if American ingenuity is put to work, we will find some way to maintain peace in this world, and that American agriculture will play its part in seeing to it that some order is brought out of the chaos that is heading at us at a collision rate.

## CURRENT DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

Summary of talk by Almon F. Heald  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 22, 1966

I want to stress the importance of the work of the USDA Defense Boards and to urge all chairmen to hold well-planned and useful meetings, at least quarterly. To illustrate what can be done, I am going to show a set of slides, entitled "Emergency Action by USDA Defense Boards." These are accompanied by a recorded talk and depict the action by USDA Defense Boards during the tornado in Michigan last year.

These slides are available for use by County Defense Boards and would be an excellent training aid. Several counties expressed interest in the use of these slides at their County Defense Board Meetings.



CURRENT DEFENSE ACTIVITIES  
Talk by Richard C. Holmes  
Deputy Director of Civil Defense  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 22, 1966

Two major steps have been accomplished this week in our overall Civil Defense Plan. The first is that the Governor has signed the Memorandum of Understanding on the Federal-State division of post-attack food management responsibilities. This agreement will permit a more equal distribution of food stuffs in our State during the post-attack period. Without this agreement, we could run into problems where certain areas would be short or completely out of food. For several years, we have been working to have such an agreement properly signed so we feel quite elated that this has finally been done.

The second major accomplishment this week is the hiring of an Emergency Resources Management Officer and Secretary to write up State plans for Vermont under the Office of Emergency Planning direction and control. These plans when completed will be our Standard Operating Procedure for post-attack recovery and will enable a much quicker return to normal operation. This man will be working with eleven different committees that have been appointed by the Governor and his advisors.

We are presently holding training sessions for Medical Self-Help instructors in the hopes that we will get approximately 100 new instructors that will be available and willing to teach the 16-hour Medical Self-Help course in the various cities and towns. It is the goal of the Civil Defense Division that we can train at least one person in every family in this field so that they will be better prepared to take care of themselves in both natural and war emergencies.

One of your ASCS Office Managers asked about the dosimeters that we have stored in all but the Grand Isle County Office and wondered if the package might be opened so that they could be trained in the operation and maintenance of the dosimeter. The answer is no. These packages must be left intact as they will be distributed in the event of a nuclear emergency and then only under the direction of the State Civil Defense office. We will be more than happy to set up a two-hour training session with any of your office staff who wish this type of training and then we will use actual instruments and charges. If you desire such a class, please contact either my office or Mr. Heald.



OUR CONTRIBUTION TO CONSUMERS  
Talk by Harry A. Peters, Northeast Area Director, ASCS  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 22, 1966

I am happy to have a part in your State ASCS Conference. This annual affair gives us all a chance to visit about some of the problems we share, the program results we have achieved during the past year and a chance to look forward to what we must get done in the days ahead.

Speaking of accomplishments, I want to note two outstanding features of our ASCS operations in Vermont. We recognize and are proud of the fact that a higher percentage of Vermont farmers take part in the ACP each year than in any other State. You have an enviable record in this regard. More than any other program, ACP is the hallmark of our operations. I am confident Vermont will continue to hold its high place in the ACP. The need for this program becomes greater each year as we try to maintain a strong soil, water and woodland reserve for this country. We understand and appreciate the part you committeemen have in keeping the ACP going.

One reason you have been successful is the close support you receive from community committeemen. To the best of my knowledge your plan to hold annual training sessions for community committeemen, the manner in which you do it, is unique. I believe your community committee system is as strong as can be found anywhere in the ASCS organization. This has helped you give better service to Vermont farmers than would otherwise be possible. Better service to farmers is one of the goals we have been striving for during the past four years. ASCS is, of course, a service organization.

Our programs have a very direct effect on the economic well-being of the farmers we serve. Although our programs help farmers they also help consumers. They have a direct bearing on the consumers' food supply.

Concern for the world's food supply is much in the news these days. Food shortages make headlines. Surpluses make headlines. While Americans read about the food crisis in India or some of the other underdeveloped countries, they continue to be the best fed people in the world. Our consumers take their food supply for granted. They have only to select the kinds and amounts of food they want from a wide variety of choices in our supermarkets.

In our urban society, and we are becoming more urban, few consumers understand the importance of agriculture. Fewer still understand how much ASCS programs contribute to a stable food supply. The need is clear, we must do a better job of clearly explaining our programs to the consumer. That brings me to my assignment today.....TO RELATE THE EFFECT OF ASCS PROGRAMS ON FOOD AND CONSUMERS THE WORLD OVER. This is a rather large order. Our programs involve millions of people, hundreds of millions of acres and billions of dollars.

It is difficult to talk about their effect without using superlatives. For example, the Commodity Credit Corporation is the largest organization of its type in the world. It serves the largest single productive segment in the Nation, namely, Agriculture and allied business. The Food for Peace Program, in which we have a part, helps/92 million people.

When our work began in the early thirties, farmers faced bankruptcy. The country's soil resources were being rapidly dissipated. Prices were at ruinously low levels and production was uncontrolled.

Out of desperate need grew legislation that put farmers back on their feet, stabilized prices to both farmers and consumers. It minimized the depressing effects of surpluses, and helped landowners to restore the Nation's soil inventory.

In the three decades that have followed, this legislation was refined and adapted to meet changing conditions. New programs have been added, and program emphasis changed to reflect the demands of our changing economy.

Although it was designed as "farm legislation," our programs have a profound and far-reaching effect on consumers too.

Let's look at our programs through the eyes of a city-dwelling, tax paying, urban-oriented consumer. Put yourself in his shoes. What do our programs mean to him? Let's see what they do for the vast majority of Americans who do not live on farms. Today, only one American in fifteen lives on a farm. The other fourteen, whether they know it or not, benefit from farm programs. They do know what it means to be out of a job, they know when business is good or bad. And they understand the difference between poverty and prosperity as well as the farmer does.

What would happen to the farmer as a customer of city people if farm programs were suddenly cancelled out?

Independent studies by several universities and Congressional committees show that farmers would have about \$5 billion less in net income per year to spend on goods city people have to sell. If farm programs were dropped, production of major farm commodities would increase, surpluses would increase and more farmers would have to leave the farm and look for jobs in the city.

Some city people seem to think farm programs have increased the cost of the groceries they buy. The fact is, consumers are eating better now than they ever did. Furthermore, they spend less of their take-home pay for food than consumers in other countries. In Europe, the grocer would get 25¢ to 40¢ and in Russia about 50¢ out of each dollar. In this country, less than 19¢ of the consumer's dollar goes for food.

A popular misconception among city people is that farm programs are just a coverup for the farmer's inefficiency. The record tells another story. One hour of farm labor produces more than five times as much food and other crops as it did in 1919-21. Crop production is 70 percent higher per acre and output per breeding animal has doubled. Yes, the farmer's efficiency does create a superabundance. And it also brings problems to the farmer in getting a fair price for his products in the market place. This is where farm programs come in.

Probably the best known farm program in our part of the country is the Agricultural Conservation Program. Long ago, a National policy established that conservation of natural resources was in the general public interest. In the 1930's clouds of dust swept off farms into cities and silt from once fertile lands clogged streams and reservoirs.

Perhaps you can't place a consumer dollar value on a farm pond or a stand of forest trees or even grass cover on a field that cuts down the siltation into a town reservoir. And, how do you measure the value of a clear running stream or a green hillside in dollars and cents? I'm sure no one could reasonably argue that these things have no value to non-farm people.

However, we can be more concrete in terms of accomplishments. This is what has been done through the ACP since 1936. Remember that farmers generally share about half the cost of these conservation measures.

Two million farm ponds were constructed.  
 Sod waterways to circle the world 7 times were built.  
 Terraces that would reach 7 times to the moon were completed.  
 A tree for nearly every person on Earth was planted.  
 Stripcropping to cover all of New England and the Middle Atlantic States was laid out.

These pictures cover only a few of the practices. There are many more with multiple benefits for wildlife and recreation -- benefits of interest to city dwellers. This year, practices adapted to the President's program of National Beautification will be added to our regular program.

Certainly the average consumer might well understand the value to him in conserving water, soil and forest resources. But what about price support and production control programs? Doesn't a taxpayer's money for these programs go strictly into the farmer's pocket? Before we answer these questions let's look briefly at the programs.

The price support program goes back to 1933. The first crops to be supported were corn and cotton. We now administer support programs for wheat, cotton, rice, tobacco, corn, oats, rye, barley, grain sorghums, tung nuts, milk, butterfat, wool, and mohair as directed by Congress.

Production adjustment programs are closely allied to price support programs. These are keyed to adjust the production and marketing of farm crops. Like all our programs, they are operated at the local level by farmer-elected committeemen. In this group of programs we have:

VOLUNTARY DIVERSION PROGRAMS - such as the feed grain and wheat stabilization programs.

ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS AND MARKETING QUOTAS - these are currently in effect for cotton, rice, peanuts, and most types of tobacco.

Signup is still underway in the Cropland Adjustment Program so final returns are not available.

Under the Food and Agriculture Act of 1965 greater emphasis in farm commodity programs will be placed on direct payments to farmers -- rather than on high support prices through commodity loans -- to encourage cooperation in farm production control and to shore up farm income. Through broader Federal programs to improve the opportunities of all low-income people, increasing assistance will be given low-income rural families.

Other programs include the Conservation Reserve, a land retirement program of the late fifties which is now almost entirely phased out; the Sugar program under which consumers are assured an adequate supply at reasonable prices and producers a fair return for their efforts and investments; and the Cropland Conversion Program. This is a pilot program which encourages conversion of acreage in crop production to other income-producing uses including grass, trees, recreation, and wildlife.

Yes, it's true. These programs are of primary benefit to the farmer. But non-farmers benefit too. Let's consider their effect on farm income and farmer's purchasing power.

In 1964, gross farm income was 4 billion dollars higher than in 1960. Farmers spent \$600 million more for automobiles, \$400 million more for machinery and equipment, and \$400 million more for lime and fertilizer. That represents a lot of jobs for city people.

Now look at farm real estate values. Without price supports, farmers could have lost several billion dollars a year. Instead, the farm real estate values increased about \$5 billion a year.

During the last three fiscal years, each \$100 of CCC expenditures for price support has raised farm income by \$236. There are other advantages too.

The farm programs have helped assure consumers a plentiful and stable food supply.

Surely some carryover of commodities is necessary for National security purposes. Minimum reserve levels must be maintained in case of disaster or international hostilities.

Obviously, our voluntary feed grain and wheat programs have substantially reduced commodity storage and carrying charges, thereby cutting costs to taxpayers. Cumulative savings since 1961 have been nearly \$584 million.

Our county committees administer other programs which benefit non-farmers too. When natural disaster strikes, everyone suffers. Tornadoes and floods destroy farm property. Hence, this reduces the tax bases and cuts farm income. Prolonged drought can force farmers out of business. Several ASCS programs help farmers get back on their feet after an emergency or disaster.

We have our emergency ACP cost-sharing to help restore cover on devastated lands. During the 1965 program, Vermont farmers earned an estimated \$17,000 in cost-shares in re-establishing cover destroyed by the drought.

The Livestock Feed Program has been of great help to farmers during the long drought affecting the Northeast Area. In Vermont, this program has been operated each year since 1963. About 1,685,000 bushels of corn and oats have been purchased by Vermont farmers from 1963 through April 1, 1966. We estimate savings of over \$840,000 on this amount if it had been purchased on the open market.

Certainly these programs also protect the consumer. Food prices could skyrocket in a natural disaster area. I believe our Livestock Feed Program helped prevent a rise in the price of milk to eastern consumers during the prolonged drought that has plagued our area for many months.

ASCS also has a hand in defense preparedness. Its responsibility includes assuring continuity of the Nation's food supply and preservation of our agricultural resources. The benefits to consumers from national preparedness cannot be measured in dollars and cents but the importance of this work cannot be overstated. In a National defense emergency, the importance of food is paramount.

ASCS programs benefit consumers through improvement of the farmers' purchasing power, and many other ways. The superabundance produced by American farmers drastically affects prices that farmers receive. Our price-support programs protect prices from undue fluctuations.

However, in carrying out these programs, large inventories of agricultural commodities are acquired. Sometimes consumers are critical of stocks of farm commodities held in this "supply inventory." Without it there would be no public instrument to channel our superabundance into programs that benefit all Americans and millions of people in foreign lands, too.

The Commodity Credit Corporation has responsibility for managing this "supply inventory." The CCC is a part of the USDA and most of its operations are included in our agency, ASCS. CCC plays a vital part in moving agricultural abundance into consumption in the U.S. and donates food to Federal, State and private agencies for distribution under the School Lunch Program, summer camps for children, and many charitable institutions.

Emergency Livestock Feed also comes from CCC stocks. This program has been offered scemewhere in the country every year since 1959. In 1964-65, over 21 million bushels were sold in 186 counties in the Northeast Area.

The "supply inventory" also serves as a great reservoir for U.S. foreign trade and donation programs. Abundance of agricultural commodities is a highly significant factor in American foreign policy. Today the U.S. is the world's leading exporter of agricultural products and CCC plays a major role in this vital international field.

American consumers should especially appreciate the benefits accruing to them under our Public Law 480 program called FOOD FOR PEACE. This and other foreign programs are winning friends for America and strengthening the position of the free world in international affairs.

At home and abroad, every day of the year, our programs are at work in the realm of food and consumers. In this country, the man on the street may take his food supply for granted. He may not realize the extent to which our programs help him enjoy the fruits of agricultural abundance. This is a story that deserves the attention of consumers everywhere.

Our programs do help the farmer, but they also help the 14 out of 15 Americans inside city limits too.

They help maintain farm income at a steady level. In so doing, they make the Nation's biggest industry a still better consumer for town and city businesses through programs that help three and one quarter million little businesses manage better.

They make more jobs and more jobs secure.

They strengthen our hand in world affairs and help our friends in needy countries abroad.

They make food a bargain and abundance a blessing for the needy, the helpless and our children.

They encourage efficiency in agriculture and prevent ruinous prices.

And they help keep America a clean and beautiful place for the benefit of all citizens.

GREETINGS FROM THE GOVERNOR  
Summary of Remarks by Hon. Philip Hoff  
Governor of Vermont  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 22, 1966

It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to address this group, and I want to emphasize that farmers, both as producers and consumers, are a vital part of our Nation's economy. I am greatly concerned over the fact that farmers are required to absorb much of the cost of inflation. The price they receive for their product is reduced, while they pay the inflated price for the products they consume. The diminishing number of farms in our State is another fact that disturbs me. However, it is my hope that the farmer's lot will improve in the future.



KEEPING UP TO DATE ON THE MILK SITUATION  
Talk by Richard D. Aplin, Marketing Administrator  
Mass.-R.I. Milk Marketing Order  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 22, 1966

Developments in both milk production and milk marketing in New England and across the Nation have occurred with such rapidity in recent weeks as to make some price forecasts obsolete nearly as soon as they have been issued. Decreased milk production throughout the country and sharp rises in the wholesale commodity price index for the United States are the prime factors which will result in significantly higher milk prices in 1966.

Economists from the cooperative associations in our market and from the University of Massachusetts met with folks in my office on April 14 to appraise the situation. They decided to issue estimates as to class prices and blended prices for the last nine months of 1966. These estimates are intended as a guide for dairy farmers and it is hoped that they will clarify the outlook. The estimates are based on the best current information and on the assumption that the present Class I and Class II formulas in the New England markets will be used to fix prices in the last six months of the year.

The blended prices announced for producers supplying the Massachusetts-Rhode Island market for the first quarter of 1966 have averaged 37 cents a hundredweight over those for the same months last year. The economists anticipate that prices to farmers in this market in the remaining nine months of the year will average about 47 cents above the same months of 1965. On the basis of this forecast dairy farmers supplying the Massachusetts-Rhode Island market are expected to receive an average price of \$4.91 for 3.5 percent milk in the 201-210-mile zone from Boston as compared with an average of \$4.47 in 1965. For nearby producers delivering to city plants the average blended prices would be 93 cents higher in each of the years.

#### Class I Prices

After changing hardly at all from 1958 until early 1965 the wholesale commodity price index for the United States has risen more than 4 percent in the past 12 months. The economists making this forecast of milk prices for New England anticipate a further rise of about 3 percent between now and late 1966. This is an important factor in our Class I price formula. Dairy ration prices in New England are about the same as a year ago. Published information indicates that New England farm wage rates have risen about 4 percent from a year ago and that New England consumer incomes have risen about 6 percent. The effect of rises in these two factors in the economic formula for pricing Class I milk which is contained in the New England orders is offset by the snubbing of the New England Class I price to that in the New York-New Jersey market which does not employ these factors in its formula.

The improved supply-demand situation for milk in the New England markets has lifted the supply-demand factor in our Class I price formula from the level of about .95 at which it was much of the time in the first half of 1965 to the level of .99 in the calculation of the March and April Class I prices. This factor is expected to continue at a level of about .99 for the

remainder of 1966. This means that in the opinion of the economists the supply of milk for the New England markets relative to Class I sales of producer milk in these markets will be about the same as in the base year of 1958. During most of the time from 1958 to 1966 the supply of milk relative to sales in the New England markets has been higher.

The rises in the wholesale commodity price index and the improved supply-demand situation in New England milk markets canceled the seasonal drops of 22 cents a hundredweight in the Class I price which normally occur on January 1 and on March 1. This result caused the January and February Class I prices to be 22 cents above last year and the March price to be 44 cents above 1965. Suspension and amendment actions taken by the U. S. Department of Agriculture gave an additional lift of 22 cents to the Class I price for April causing it to be 66 cents above April of last year. The final amendment action by the Department will hold the May-June Class I prices 22 cents higher than they would otherwise have been and they will be 44 cents above 1965. The economists now predict that the Class I price formula working by itself will produce Class I prices in each of the last six months of 1966 which are 44 cents above the prices in the same months of 1965. A 44-cent higher price in the last quarter had been forecast last December. The revised forecast looks for the 44-cent increase to take place also in the third quarter instead of the 22 cents which had been anticipated earlier.

#### Class II Prices

Since April 1965 milk production in the United States has been lower each month than in the same month of the previous year. The margin of decrease has been widening until it reached nearly 6 percent in February. The number of dairy cows in the country has been declining for several years but until 1965 the increase in production per cow was sufficient to offset the reduction in numbers.

Reduced milk production has been reflected in sharply smaller volumes of Cheddar cheese, butter, and nonfat dry milk being produced in the United States. The lower production of these basic dairy products, together with a high continued demand for such products, has led to sharply higher prices being paid to producers at manufacturing milk plants, particularly in Wisconsin and Minnesota. The price for Class II milk in the Northeast is based directly on prices paid at milk manufacturing plants throughout the country. It is now forecast that the Class II price in New England markets in April-December of this year will average 37 cents above the same period last year.

The decrease in receipts from producers for the Massachusetts-Rhode Island market is resulting from a sharp decline in the number of producers, which is only partly offset by increased production on the remaining farms. In February of this year there were 8,945 producers supplying this market. This was a drop of 1,280 from the number of producers in this same market a year ago. The average daily receipts from each farm in February of this year were 978 pounds as compared with 890 pounds a year earlier. The rise of 88 pounds per day from each farm was about 10 percent but the decline in the number of producers was nearly 13 percent. The smaller milk production will cause the percentage of receipts from producers being utilized in Class I to be somewhat higher this year. This is the final factor contributing to the increase in the blended price to producers for milk.

ACP, CAP, CRP, AND LFP  
Discussion led by A. F. Heald,  
State Executive Director  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 22, 1966

Mr. Heald discussed various administrative aspects of the Agricultural Conservation Program, Cropland Adjustment Program, Conservation Reserve Program and Livestock Feed Program. In addition, he reviewed the summary of community committee recommendations from all counties. Copies of material reviewed follow.



SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS \*  
All Counties

1967 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM \*\*

A PROGRAM POLICIES

The general program principles are outlined in the current State or County Practice Handbook. What are your comments on these principles?

13 counties voted for the same program principles as in 1966; one county voted to take out the last sentence in Principle No. 4, which reads: "In no event should costs be shared on practices except those which are over and above those farmers would be compelled to perform in order to secure a crop."

B PRACTICE RECOMMENDATIONS

In keeping with the program policies, what practices and cost-share rates are recommended for 1967? (Use last year's practices as a basis for discussion. When establishing cost-shares for mineral practices, make a thorough comparison of contract costs vs. cash practices and use this in determining the cost-share rates.)

Practice 1 - Lime

All counties voted for the same practice as in 1966.

Cost-share: See table on page 2.

Practice 2 - New Seeding

12 counties voted to offer the same practice as in 1966; one county voted to have the same cost-sharing for cash practice as for CMS; and one county voted for the same cost-share for nitrogen and non-nitrogen carrying fertilizer both for CMS and cash practice. One county that had a requirement that a soil test must be available before approving this practice rescinded this requirement.

Cost-share: See table on page 2.

Practice 3 - Improvement of Hay or Pasture

All counties voted to offer this practice as in 1966 with changes in cost-shares as shown in Practice 2 above.

Cost-share: See table on page 2.

\* For review at the 1966 State ASCS Conference.

\*\* The questions listed are those which were discussed at the ASCS Program Planning Meetings in the Spring of 1966.

Table on 1966 Rates with Recommendations for 1967  
for Practices 1, 2, 3 and 19(a)

County	<u>Lime</u>		<u>Mixed Fert.</u>		<u>Super</u>	
	Gov. %	of BS Cost	Gov. %	of Cost*	Gov. %	of Cost**
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
	1966	1967	1966	1967	1966	1967
Addison	50	50 1/	34	34	36	36
Bern.	50	50	35	35	36	36
Cal.	50	50	39	39	36	36
Chitt.	50	50	34	34	36	36
Essex	47	47	34	34	36	36
Frank.	43	43	34	34	36	36
Gr. Is.	50	50	34	34	36	43
Lam.	48	50	33	50	36	50
Orange	50	50	34	34	32	32
Orleans	47	47	34	34	36	36
Rutland	46	46	35	35	36	36
Wash.	50	50	33	33	36	36
Windham	P0	P0	P0	P0	36	36
Windsor	47	47	37	37	36	36

\*Based on % of cost of contract 0-15-30 or 0-25-25

\*\*Based on % of cost of contract 20% super delivered to RR sidings

1/ Not to exceed \$4.20 a ton

#### Practice 4 - Planting Trees

13 counties voted to continue this practice as in 1966, and one county voted to delete the word "exclusively" from this sentence: "No Federal cost-sharing will be allowed for plantings for ornamental purposes, or for plantations established exclusively for Christmas tree production."

Cost-share: See table on page 3.

#### Practice 5 - Woodland Improvement

All counties voted for the same practice as in 1966.

Cost-share: See table on page 3.

#### Practice 6 - Obstruction Removal

All counties voted to continue this practice as in 1966, with one county limiting practice to the use of crawler-type equipment, and another confining practice to fields and rotated pasture.

Cost-share: See table on page 3.

Table of 1966 Rates with Recommendations for 1967  
for Practices 4 and 5

County	Planting Trees		Woodland Improvement Cost-share (a)	
	Actual	Proposed	Actual	Proposed
	1966	1967	1966	1967
Add.	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$15 A	70% NTE \$15 A
Benn.	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$15 A	70% NTE \$15 A
Cal.	70% NTE \$25 M <sub>1</sub> /	70% NTE \$25 M <sub>1</sub> /	70% NTE \$15 A <sub>1</sub> /	70% NTE \$15 A <sub>1</sub> /
Chitt.	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$15 A	70% NTE \$12 A
Essex	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$15 A	70% NTE \$12 A
Frank.	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$15 A	70% NTE \$15 A
Gr. I.	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$25 M	70% NTE \$20 A	70% NTE \$20 A
Lam.	70% NTE \$25 M <sub>2</sub> /	8/	70% NTE \$15 A <sub>2</sub> /	9/
Ora.	\$25 M	\$25 M	70% NTE \$15 A <sub>3</sub> /	70% NTE \$15 A <sub>3</sub> /
Orl.	70% NTE \$25 M <sub>4</sub> /	70% NTE \$15 M <sub>4</sub> /	70% NTE \$15 A <sub>4</sub> /	70% NTE \$15 A <sub>4</sub> /
Rut.	\$25 M	\$25 M	70% NTE \$15 A	70% NTE \$12 A
Wash.	70% NTE \$20 M <sub>5</sub> /	70% NTE \$20 M <sub>5</sub> /	6/	6/
Windh.	70% NTE \$20 M <sub>7</sub> /	70% NTE \$20 M <sub>7</sub> /	50% NTE \$12 A <sub>7</sub> /	50% NTE \$12 A <sub>7</sub> /
Winds.	70% NTE \$20 M	70% NTE \$20 M	70% NTE \$15 A	70% NTE \$12 A

1/ \$500 limit on forestry practices, or \$1500 per person.

2/ 5 acres of forestry per farm.

3/ 25 acres per farm.

4/ \$500 per owner for forestry practices, regardless of number of farms involved.

5/ \$150 farm limit.

6/ 70% NTE \$15 A for thinning, removing, and killing and 50% NTE \$15 A for pruning, with a farm limit of \$300.

7/ 20 acre limit on forestry practices.

8/ 50% NTE \$25 A for planting on meadowland and 70% NTE \$25 A for planting on rough land - classification by county forester.

9/ 20-50 stems per acre, \$8 A; 51-125 stems, \$12 A; over 125 stems, \$15 A.

Table of 1966 Rates with Recommendations for 1967  
for Practice 6

County	Obstruction Removal	
	Actual 1966	Proposed 1967
Add.	40% NTE \$25 A or \$150 farm	40% NTE \$25 A or \$150 farm
Benn.	40% NTE \$25 A (\$200*)	40% NTE \$25 A (\$200*)
Cal.	40% NTE \$25 A (\$200*)	40% NTE \$25 A (\$200*)
Chitt.	40% NTE \$15 A or \$75 farm	40% NTE \$15 A or \$75 farm
Essex	40% NTE \$20 A (\$120*)	40% NTE \$20 A (\$120*)
Frank.	40% NTE \$15 A (5A*)	40% NTE \$15 A (5A*)
Gr. I.	40% NTE \$25 A	40% NTE \$25 A
Lam.	40% NTE \$20 A or \$100 farm	40% NTE \$20 A or \$100 farm
Orange	40% NTE \$25 A (\$150*)	40% NTE \$25 A (\$150*)
Orleans	40% NTE \$25 A or \$100 farm	40% NTE \$25 A or \$100 farm
Rut.	40% NTE \$25 A (\$100*)	50% NTE \$25 A (\$100*)
Wash.	40% NTE \$25 A (\$100*)	40% NTE \$25 A (\$100*)
Windham	40% NTE \$25 A (\$200*)	40% NTE \$25 A (\$200*)
Windsor	40% NTE \$25 A	40% NTE \$25 A

\*Farm Limit

Practice 7 - Stripcropping

13 counties voted to offer this practice as in 1966 and one county voted not to offer it.

Cost-share: 13 counties voted for the same cost-share as in 1966.

Practice 8 - Farm Pond

8 counties voted to continue this practice as in 1966; one county voted that purchase orders not be permitted; and five counties voted to include fencing and pipeline; another to include ponds for orchards.

Cost-share: See table below.

Table of 1966 Rates with Recommendations for 1967  
for Practice 8

County	<u>Farm Ponds</u>	
	Cost-share (a) Actual 1966	Cost-share (a) Proposed 1967
Addison	40%	40%
Bennington	40% (\$300* inc. seeding)	40% (\$300* inc. seeding)
Caledonia	40%	40%
Chittenden	40% NTE \$100 dug or \$300 dam	40% NTE \$100 dug or \$300 dam
Essex	40% 1/	40% 1/
Franklin	40% NTE \$80 dug &/or \$150 dam	40% NTE \$80 dug &/or \$150 dam
Grand Isle	40%	40%
Lamoille	40% NTE \$150	40% NTE \$150
Orange	40% 2/	40% 2/
Orleans	40% 3/	40% 3/
Rutland	40% (\$200*)	50% (\$200*)
Washington	40% 4/	40% 4/
Windham	40% (\$200*)	40% (\$200*)
Windsor	40% (\$400*)	40% (\$400*)

\*Farm limit

- 1/ Owner must have had at least 10 animal units on the farm during the previous year.
- 2/ \$500 for pond for any one farm.
- 3/ \$200 for dug ponds, \$300 for impounded ponds including spreading the spoil and seeding.
- 4/ \$400. If pipeline practice is needed, it will be in addition to this practice.

Practice 9 - Sod Waterways

All counties voted to continue this practice as in 1966.

Cost-share: All counties voted to continue the present cost-share.

Practice 10 - Pipelines

13 counties voted for the same practice as in 1966; and one voted to include cowpumps.

Cost-share: 13 counties voted for a 50% cost-share and one for 40%, as in 1966.

Practice 11 - Diversion Ditch

All counties voted for this practice as in 1966.

Cost-share: All counties voted to continue the present cost-share.

Practice 12 - Channel Lining

All counties voted to continue this practice as in 1966.

Cost-share: 13 counties voted for a 50% cost-share and one for 40% as in 1966.

Practice 13 - Streambank Protection

All counties voted for the practice as in 1966.

Cost-share: Nine counties voted for a 50% cost-share for (a) and (b); four counties voted for 50% for (a) and \$3 a tree for (b); and one county voted for 50% for (a) and \$3 a tree 12-23" and \$4 a tree 24" and over. These are the same cost-shares as in 1966.

Practice 14 - Open Drainage

All 14 counties voted to continue this practice as in 1966.

Cost-share: 13 counties voted to offer 50% of the cost and one voted for 40% as in 1966.

Practice 15 - Tile Drainage

All 14 counties voted for this practice as in 1966.

Cost-share: 13 counties voted for a 50% cost-share and one voted for 40% as in 1966.

Practice 16 - Land Grading

All 14 counties voted to continue this practice as now offered.

Cost-share: 13 counties voted for a 50% cost-share and one voted for 40%, as in 1966.

Practice 17 - Springs and Seeps

13 counties voted for the same practice as in 1966 and one county voted to add "and check valves" after cow pumps in cost-share (b).

Cost-share: 13 counties voted for a cost-share of 50% of the cost. One county voted for 50% for (a) and 40% for (b).

## Practice 18 - Special Conservation Practices

One county worked up a new practice for improving land use on idle or abandoned agricultural areas through improvement of desirable softwood stems for Christmas trees.

### Practice 18(a) - Green Manure

Two counties which offered this practice in 1966 voted to continue it in 1967. (Caledonia and Windham Counties)

### Practice 18(b) - Mulching

The four counties offering this practice in 1966 voted to continue it in 1967. (Addison, Bennington, Grand Isle and Windham Counties)

### Practice 18(c) - Shrub Control

Two counties offering this practice in 1966 voted to offer it again in 1967. (Chittenden and Windham Counties)

### Practice 18(f) - Wild Tree Improvement

The six counties offering this practice in 1966 voted to continue it in 1967. (Caledonia, Essex, Lamoille, Orange, Orleans and Washington Counties)

## Practice 19 - County Conservation Practices

All counties voted to offer this provision.

### Practice 19(a) - Super with Manure

All counties voted to continue this practice as in 1966.

Cost-share: See table on page 2.

## Practice 20 - New Conservation Problems

One County Development Group plans to write up a practice under this provision for the eradication of bedstraw.

## Practice 21 - Emergency Conservation Measures

(Since the program planning meetings, five counties have requested the seeding practice under this provision for the 1966 ACP.)

## Practice 22 - Wildlife Practices

12 counties voted to offer this provision and two voted not to do so.

Cost-share: Two counties set over-all farm limits of \$200; one set this limit at \$500; and one set a limit of \$200 per farm and provided that approval would be given only for going dairy, poultry, or woodland farms.

### Practice 22(a) - Shallow Water Areas

Five counties offering this practice in 1966 voted to continue it in 1967; three counties which offered it in 1966 voted not to do so in 1967; and the remaining six counties voted not to offer it.

Cost-share: The five counties voted for the same cost-share of 50% as in 1966. One of these set a limit of \$150 per farm, and another \$300.

### Practice 22(b) - Wildlife Ponds

Six counties voted to continue the practice as in 1966; one county did not offer the practice in 1966 and voted not to do so in 1967; one county offered the practice in 1966 but voted not to do so in 1967; and the remaining counties made these comments or conditions:

- a Add the words "to use for spraying" (as for orchards).
- b The applicant must own 50 acres.
- c Add this sentence under the cost-share: "In order to be eligible property must have been owned for 3 years by the applicant and on these farms the main source of income must be from agriculture."
- d Eliminate the requirement that at least one other practice must be carried out on the farm.
- e Add pipeline as in Practice 10 and fencing.

Cost-share: All counties voted for the same cost-share (a) of 40% as in 1966. One set a limit of \$150 per farm; one, \$200 per pond; one, \$200 per land owner; one, \$150 for the practice; the remaining counties set these conditions:

- a \$300 limit and applicant must have owned property for three years.
- b \$300 per pond and producer must have at least 50 acres of farmland and must carry out one additional practice.
- c \$80 for a dug pond and \$150 for a dam pond.
- d \$200 for a dug pond and \$300 for a dam pond including spreading the spoil and seeding. In addition, the farmer to be eligible must have owned the land for three years as of July 1 and must have a going dairy, poultry or woodland farm.
- e \$400 limit and the farm must have been owned by the applicant at least three years using October 31 as cutoff date and must carry out at least one additional practice this year or have done so in prior four years.

### Practice 22(c) - Land Management

The five counties offering this practice in 1966 voted to continue it in 1967. The other nine counties voted not to offer it.

Cost-share: All five counties voted for the same cost-share of 50% as in 1966. One county set a per farm limit of \$150.

## Practice 22(d) - Cutback Borders

Of the three counties offering this practice in 1966, only one voted to continue it in 1967 and that county voted to change the title to "Keeping Open Spaces." The remaining 13 counties voted not to offer this practice.

Cost-share: One county voted for the same cost-share of 50% as in 1966, and set a limit of \$100.

## Practice 23 - Beautification

Ten counties voted not to offer this provision and two counties voted to leave it in the handbook. One county voted to offer a practice of mowing open fields once every three years to keep down encroaching brush or trees with a cost-share of 50% of the cost not to exceed \$150 per farm. The remaining county voted for a practice to keep land cleared with a cost-share of 50% for mowing once every three years.

## C OPERATING POLICIES

1 What arrangements should be made for enrolling farmers in the program?

13 counties voted for farm-to-farm visits and one for sign-up meetings. One county plans to send an informational leaflet to all known farmers and another suggests making a special effort to contact out-of-State owners after July 1 and before they leave in the Fall.

2 A survey made last year shows that there are over 1,000 farms in our State that did not participate in ACP during 1960-1965. How do we reach this group?

Six counties had no suggestions. The remaining eight made the following comments:

- a Continue to mail information, publish it in papers and on radio, since community committeemen report some farmers are just interested in ACP and others do not farm any more.
- b Star the names of farmers on the list who have not participated since 1960 and have committeemen find out why.
- c Lack of money is the reason many do not participate.
- d Be sure committeemen visit each farm during signup.
- e Continue to contact all farmers to offer an opportunity to enroll.
- f Furnish lists to committeemen as usual.
- g Contact each known farmer, either in person, or by letter if he lives out of town or State.

3 What are your suggestions in connection with breaking down the use of program funds among farmers?

All 14 counties recommended leaving this up to the county committee.

4 There is a provision for increasing cost-shares to low-income farms (where estimated family income does not exceed \$3,000). How can we use this to advantage?

Two counties voted to leave this to the county committee; four did not recommend using the provision; the remaining eight counties made no decision.

5 What are your suggestions on the use of 5% and 1% funds?

Seven counties voted to continue as in 1966; the remaining counties had no suggestions to make.

6 What should our soil test requirements be?

Three counties agreed to continue present requirements; two made no comment; the remaining nine commented as follows:

- a Lime - none - needs requirement determined by field assistant and farmer.
- b Two tons lime per acre unless soil test shows otherwise; quick tests by committeemen.
- c Use lime or prove by soil test it is not needed.
- d Lime - soil test for over 5 tons; fertilizer not required; encourage tests through Swanton Lime Works and University.
- e Lime - needs; to use 2 tons per acre unless soil test shows less is needed. Must use lime on land treated with fertilizer unless soil test shows pH of 6.2 or more.
- f pH 5.0 to 5.9 - 2 tons lime per acre; 6.0 to 6.5 - 1 ton per acre; no test - 2 tons per acre; soil test required and above requirements met for Practices 1, 2 and 3.
- g Lime - same as in 1966; mixed fertilizer strongly recommended but not mandatory.
- h For Practices 2 and 3 in order to qualify for fertilizer the requirement will be 2 tons lime per acre or a soil test showing less lime is needed.
- i Lime - none; MF - use of fertilizer not approved unless lime was used in previous year or is ordered for current year or a soil test is available showing lime is not needed.
- j pH minimum is 6.5.

## 7 Conservation Materials and Services

a Should we continue to furnish conservation materials under contract in 1967 as we did in 1966?

All 14 counties voted "Yes."

LIME	County	Size of Bag	Type of Delivery			
			Bagged F.Y.	Bagged Siding	Bulk- Spread	FOB Plant
	Addison	80	x		x	x
	Bennington	80	x		x	
	Caledonia	80	x	x	x	
	Chittenden	80	x		x	
	Essex	80	x		x	
	Franklin	-	x		x	
	Grand Isle	100	x		x	
	Lamoille	80		x	x	
	Orange	80	x	x	x	x
	Orleans	100	x	x	x	
	Rutland	-	x		x	x
	Washington	80	x	x	x	
	Windham		Purchase Order			x
	Windsor	80	x		x	x

SUPER Type of Delivery - Three counties voted for bagged siding; three, for bagged farmyard; one, for bagged farmyard and FOB plant; and one, for bagged siding and bagged farmyard.

Five counties voted to leave the decision to the county committee based on the results of bids for bagged siding and bagged farmyard; one county will decide based on bids for bagged siding and FOB plant.

MIXED	County	0-10-30	0-15-30	0-25-25	Bagged	Bagged	FOB
					Siding	F.Y.	Plant
	Addison					x	
	Benn.					x	x
	Cal. <u>1/</u>						
	Chitt. <u>2/</u>						
	Essex	x	x	x		x	x
	Frank. <u>1/</u>	x	x	x			
	Gr. I.			x		x	x
	Lam. <u>3/</u>	x		x <u>3/</u>	x		
	Orange	x			x		
				x			x
	Orleans					x	x
	Rutland		x	x		x	x
	Wash.	x		x		x	
	Windham	Purchase Order					
	Windsor <u>4/</u>	x	x		x		
				x			x

- 1/ County committee will decide on kinds and types of delivery after bids are in.
- 2/ County committee will decide on kinds and types of delivery after bids are in; would like bids on bulksread delivery also.
- 3/ Both analyses if mixed cars can be shipped.
- 4/ Get bids on fertilizer with nitrogen; committee will make decision on kind based on bid results.

---

POTASH	<u>County</u>	<u>Farmyard</u>	<u>FOB Plant</u>
	Addison	x	
	Benn.	x	x
	Cal.		
	Chitt. <u>1/</u>		
	Essex	x	x
	Frank.		
	Gr. I.		
	Lam.		
	Orange	Cash practice only	
	Orleans		x
	Rutland	x	x
	Wash.	Not to be offered	
	Windham	Not to be offered	
	Windsor	x	x

- 1/ Get bids and take cheapest source.
- 

C 7 b Explanation of Purchase Order Plan.

c Cost-share Rate for Purchase Orders (and Cash Practices) Fertilizer. In the past, some counties have set up cash practice payment rates for fertilizer (thus purchase orders) higher than for contract materials. Should this be continued?

Two counties voted "No," and two voted "Yes." Three had no comment and one group passed over the question. The other six made the following comments:

- (1) Leave to county committee.
- (2) Same as last year.
- (3) Have the same cost-shares for cash practice and contract material.
- (4) Use purchase orders for mixed fertilizer and super.
- (5) Do not allow purchase orders for fertilizer.

Indicate the type of material or service to be furnished under the Purchase Order Plan:

<u>Kind of Service</u>	<u>Reply</u>	<u>No. Counties</u>
(1) Planting forest trees	Yes No	13 0
(2) Woodland improvement	Yes No	13 0
(3) Earth moving	Yes No	14 * 0
* Except Practice 8.		
(4) Other (specify)		
Lime	Yes	3
Fertilizer	Yes	6
	No	1

d Should we continue the soil sampling service?

Yes 11  
No 3

The following comments were made:

- (1) Use quick test kits.
- (2) Committeemen will test for lime when requested and farmers will be advised to ask county agent for complete soil test. It will be pointed out that several lime and fertilizer companies offer this service.
- (3) Committeemen will take samples earlier; all should be done by August 1; postcard will be sent to show samples can be taken by ASCS and/or fertilizer dealer.
- (4) Continue fall sampling; service will be offered this spring and next fall; cards will be sent out this spring asking farmers which they prefer.

#### D ANY OTHER SUGGESTIONS

Three counties made the following suggestions:

- 1 Include horses as animal units.
- 2 Include a practice for paving barnyards.
- 3 Farmers like to know when their mixed fertilizer is to be delivered. Is it possible to notify them of the delivery dates?

SOME FACTS ON

WATER DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES UNDER ACP

- I. The Aim of ACP practices for water development is to bring about better grassland management or to provide adequate water in pasture areas for better distribution of grazing. This can be in permanent pastures or areas rotated for pasture.
- II. The Practices (with comments). The 1966 Vermont ACP Handbook carries the following practices for water development:

Practice 8. Construction or enlargement of farm ponds.

Federal Cost-share: (a) 40 percent of the cost of approved measures in constructing the pond.  
(b) \$35 per acre of permanent vegetation established.  
(c) 50 percent of the cost of cow pumps.

Comment: May be developed by building a dam or may be a dug pond.

Farmer must have large enough herd to warrant pond requested.

Practice 10. Installing pipelines for livestock water as a means of protecting vegetative cover.

Federal Cost-share: 50 percent of the cost of installed pipe, collection trough, drinking bowls, and float valve.

Comment: This practice is provided to help cost-share the piping of water from existing sources to pastured areas for the bringing about of better distribution of grazing.

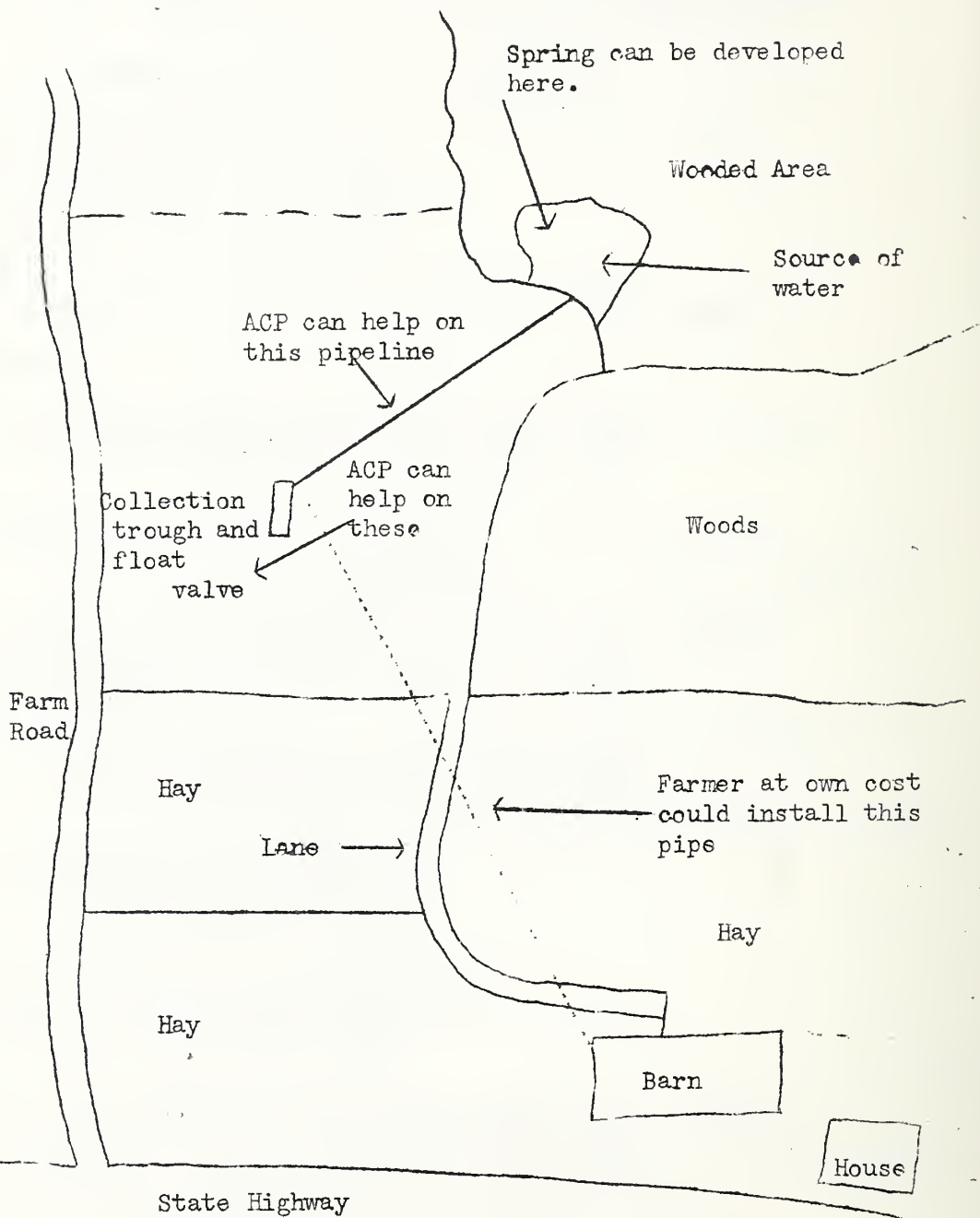
Practice 17. Developing springs or seeps for livestock water as a means of protecting vegetation.

Federal Cost-share: (a) 50 percent of the cost of approved measures used in the development, including water collection structures, pipes, and fencing.  
(b) 50 percent of the cost of installed pipe, collection trough, drinking bowls, float valve, and/or cow pumps needed to deliver water to livestock.

Comment: The primary purpose of this practice is to help a farmer develop a source of water for the protection of grass cover through the proper distribution of grazing or better grassland management.

There is no restriction on piping water from the spring so developed to the barn.

Example: A farmer has a source of water in a wooded area just above a pasture area. He has no other adequate source of water in the area. He would be eligible for the practice. (See sketch below.)



Practice 22(b). Constructing ponds for wildlife.

(Applicable in counties other than Windham).

- Federal Cost-share:
- (1) 40 percent of the cost of approved measures in constructing the pond.
  - (2) \$35 per acre of permanent vegetation established.
  - (3) 50 cents per rod of 3-strand barbed wire fence.
  - (4) \$1 per rod of woven wire fence.

Comment: This practice is confined to permanent ponds for fish or wildlife constructed on farmland for the purpose of improving habitat.

III. Additional Information may be obtained from county ASCS offices or from county and community ASC committeemen.

Farmer must request practice before starting and must have approval to be assured of cost-share assistance.



Wildlife Practices  
(Data furnished by counties April 1966)

County	Shallow Water Areas				Fonds				Land Management				Cutback Borders			
	1965 ACP		1966 ACP		1965 ACP		1966 ACP		1965 ACP		1966 ACP		1965 ACP		1966 ACP	
	Requests Recd	Com- pleted	Requests Recd	Com- pleted	Requests Recd	Com- pleted	Requests Recd	Com- pleted	Requests Recd	Com- pleted	Requests Recd	Com- pleted	Requests Recd	Com- pleted	Requests Recd	Com- pleted
Add.	2	1	0	0	0	0	25	21	3	3	4	4	4	4	Not Offered	Not Offered
Benn.	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	11	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	0	0	0	Not Offered
Caled.	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	3	0	0	0	0	7	7	1	3
Chitt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	16	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	3	3	0	0
Essex	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	4	4	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered
Frank.	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	11	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered
Gr.Is.	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered
Lam.	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	28	28	18	18	16	16	16	16	Not Offered	Not Offered
Orange	1	0	0	0	0	0	35	34	2	1	5	5	3	3	2	4
Orl.	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	25	9	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered
Rut.	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	33	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered
Wash.	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	28	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	5	5	Not Offered	Not Offered
Windh.	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered
Winds.	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	37	16	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered	Not Offered
Totals	3	1	0	1	0	0	284	218	23	22	32	30	13	13	7	7



Growth of Bulkspread Lime Under ACP  
(Contract Only)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Tons Delivered</u>	<u>Total Bulkspread Delivered</u>	<u>% Bulkspread is of Total</u>
1946	82354	706	.86
1947	68649	2772	4.04
1948	60026	3795	6.32
1949	84223	6313	7.49
1950	82614	13688	16.57
1951	72084	15298	21.22
1952	58556	16436	28.07
1953	55888	17458	31.24
1954	50386	17199	34.13
1955	52225	17511	33.53
1956	60427	24393	40.37
1957	63444	28081	44.26
1958	67912	31109	45.80
1959	61346	29593	48.23
1960	71193	37954	53.31
1961	62474	35154	56.27
1962	55937	31441	56.21
1963	52495	30898	58.86
1964	54663	34317	62.78
1965	56179	39545	70.39
1966*	<u>58738</u>	<u>41766</u>	<u>71.10</u>
TOTALS	1331813	475427	35.70

\*Estimated



STATUS OF 1965 ACP FUNDS \*

<u>County</u>	<u>Balance Available for CP's and PO's</u>	<u>Current Sight Draft Allocation</u>	<u>Plus or Minus Balance</u>
Addison	56097	41950	+ 14147
Bemington	26149	27600	- 1451
Caledonia	53667	42000	+ 11667
Chittenden	43499	38100	+ 5399
Essex	13059	17480	- 4421
Franklin	61487	59350	+ 2137
Grand Isle	11269	9200	+ 2069
Lamoille	30643	38950	- 8307
Orange	37675	58750	- 21075
Orleans	68357	75950	- 7593
Rutland	45611	36200	+ 9411
Washington	38148	35100	+ 3048
Windham	43146	44600	- 1454
Windsor	52761	42250	+ 10511
Total	581568	567480	+ 14088

\* For discussion at State ASOS Conference.



Vermont ADCS State Office  
April 1966

CROPLAND ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM  
As of 4-8-66

<u>County</u>	<u>No. of Requests</u>	<u>Acresage Offered</u>			<u>Total</u>	<u>Est. Rental Obligation</u>
		<u>Corn</u>	<u>Tame Hay</u>	<u>Non-allotment Crops</u>		
Addison	0					0
Bennington	5	64		2	66	1930
Caledonia	5		193		193	965
Chittenden	5	137			137	4110
Essex	1	4			4	120
Franklin	1		67		67	335
Grand Isle	2	30			30	900
Lamoille	0					0
Orange	0					0
Orleans	2	18	72		90	900
Rutland	5	51	185	4	240	2475
Washington	3	55	36		91	1830
Windham	1	28			28	840
Windsor	<u>0</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	30	387	553	6	946	14405



Summary Conservation Reserve Program in Vermont

County (1)	January 1, 1961			January 1, 1966			Cumulative Payments*		Total (10)	Contracts Expiring	
	No. Con- tracts (2)	No. Acres (3)	Annual Payment Obliga- tion (4)	No. Con- tracts (5)	No. Acres (6)	Annual Payment Obliga- tion (7)	Annual (8)	Practice (9)		12-31-65 (11)	12-31-66 (12)
Add.	31	1297	18054	22	923	13080	115453	5717	121170	1	2
Benn.	63	2249	33032	42	1526	24211	202272	9254	211526	1	1
Cal.	156	5152	62371	142	4464	52980	431082	67407	498489	0	2
Chitt.	41	1806	25923	24	898	12908	586541	7702	594243	0	1
Essex	61	1722	22060	60	1717	22043	152214	18600	170814	0	1
Frank.	40	2014	29120	38	1859	25611	190401	14641	205042	0	1
Gr. I.	30	1695	25007	15	841	12601	138493	2363	140856	0	1
Lam.	75	2180	30022	64	1692	23208	194124	29668	223792	0	2
Orange	92	2466	31882	71	1854	24921	200905	22495	223400	0	2
Orl.	136	4832	69298	104	3823	56192	440288	48469	488757	1	1
Rut.	63	2375	29601	46	1593	20721	176830	13187	190017	0	1
Wash.	136	3704	45684	121	2899	35403	288184	37037	325221	0	1
Wdm.	11	271	2625	2	24	202	13506	1876	15382	0	0
Wdsr.	55	897	8018	36	418	3064	60872	11217	72089	0	1
Total	990	32660	432697	787	24531	327145	3191165	289633	3480798	3	17

\*Made or to be made through 1965 program



WOOL, FEED GRAIN, AND COUNTY INFORMATIONAL ACTIVITIES  
Discussion led by G. T. Hart, Fieldman  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 22, 1966

Mr. Hart reviewed the following programs, covering items of an administrative nature for the most part.

Wool Program

150 wool applications for payment were received for the 1965 marketing year, and counties are now making 1965 wool payments.

Feed Grain Program

The total signup for the 1966 Feed Grain Program is 297 which is an increase over any previous year. The program has been in effect in Vermont since 1961.

County Informational Activities

The set of informational slides entitled "The Effect of ASCS Programs on Food and Consumers the World Over," shown earlier by Mr. Peters, is available from the State Office. Counties may have the use of these slides upon request.



Livestock Feed Sales  
as of April 18, 1966

<u>County</u>	<u>Delivery Orders (Tons)</u>		<u>Warrants (Tons)</u>		<u>Total Tons</u>	
	<u>Corn</u>	<u>Oats</u>	<u>Corn</u>	<u>Oats</u>	<u>Corn</u>	<u>Oats</u>
Addison	3077	3245	3957	1804	7034	5049
Bennington	304	119	332	34	636	153
Caledonia	49	55	80	58	129	113
Orange	1143	1198	309	186	1452	1384
Orleans	464	747	200	124	664	871
Rutland	3528	2929	1247	829	4775	3758
Washington	467	594	35	28	502	622
Windham	459	470	1102	669	1561	1139
Windsor	<u>1047</u>	<u>1090</u>	<u>731</u>	<u>238</u>	<u>1778</u>	<u>1328</u>
Total	10538	10447	7993	3970	18531	14417

Cars ordered - 318 corn  
                  431 oats  
                  749

Comments:

1. Spot Checks

Counties are reminded to continue doing the necessary farm spot check work.  
(See LF-441)

2. Follow-up Letter to LFP Grain Buyers

You will be supplied with a follow-up letter to be sent to farmers who purchased grain. This letter will be mailed to them around June 17 and will require that it be mailed back to the county office on or before July 8. This letter will give the farmer an opportunity to certify that he carried out the intent of the program.

3. Termination Dates

You are reminded that the termination date of the current program is May 31. The final date for accepting applications from farmers is May 6. Delivery orders and warrants should not be issued after May 16. Farmers should pick up the grain on or before May 23 and plan to feed it out not later than May 31. Any warrants issued currently should carry an expiration date of May 23.



COUNTY INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS  
Discussion led by Richard A. Moore,  
Chairman, State ASC Committee  
at the State ASCS Conference  
Burlington, Vermont, April 22, 1966

Mr. Moore handed out a sheet entitled, "Some Suggestions for County Informational Meetings," and held a discussion to gain ideas as to the holding of these meetings.

County representatives agreed to hold informational meetings this year and to develop programs from the suggestions or to go ahead and develop their own subjects.



SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR COUNTY INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS\*

1. A study of special land use practices at the county level; for example, the practice for improving land use in former pasture areas.

This could be in the form of a discussion of the practice in the forenoon and a visit to farms in the afternoon.

2. Suggestions to Committeemen for making a good farm visit.

This could be a talk in the morning with suggestions from county agents and county committeemen, and a sample farm visit in the afternoon.

3. Making good use of wildlife practices.

This could be in the form of a discussion in the morning and a visit to selected farms illustrating the practice in the afternoon. If possible, local Fish and Game Club representatives should be invited in to the meeting.

4. A meeting on the theme of "What We Are Doing for Your Community."

This could be a joint farmer-businessman session to review ACP accomplishments in the county.

5. New programs affecting rural landowners.

A survey of the many new programs which would include some or all of the following -- CAP, RAD, RC&D, FHA, Rural Civil Defense, State Planning, Land and Water Fund Conservation, PL 566, etc. These could be handled by one man or by a panel.

6. Soil testing.

Jerry McIntosh could bring the committeemen up to date on the recently changed laboratory procedures and testing and some of the details relative to the prescription writing concept, as well as the new types of fertilizer material handling and mixing.

7. State planning.

Its effect on the future of land and water use in Vermont. Someone from the Central Planning Office, such as Richard RuBino.

8. USDA programs.

Paul Guare of the Rural Community Development Service could mention some of the programs with which he is involved, and a report of the family farm project which is being handled by Charles Rising.

\* For Discussion at State ASCS Conference April 22, 1966.

9. Water resources.

The problem of cleaning up Vermont streams seems to have stepped up and the primary responsibility lies with the Department of Water Resources. Individual landowners will have responsibilities here and perhaps Bud Thieme would be a man here.

10. Forest management possibilities.

Ray Foulds has been working in this field and there are several new research studies that could be interpreted in terms of individual responsibilities and possibilities.

11. Farm management.

Dairying in 1975, with Dwight Eddy and other specialists.

12. Cropland Conversion Program.

A visit to Morris LaFrance's farm in Randolph Center to review the Cropland Conversion Program in operation.

## OTHER CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### Conference Banquet

This year our banquet speaker was Robert M. Koch, President of the National Limestone Institute and Executive Director of the Committee on the World Food Crisis. Mr. Koch gave the group much to think about as he outlined both the history and future of the Agricultural Conservation Program and discussed how agricultural programs in general may affect the world food crisis.

Howard A. Foster, who was a State Committeeman from 1958 to 1961, served as the toastmaster. In his ever pleasant and capable manner, Mr. Foster conducted the program so that everyone had an enjoyable evening.

Others at the head table were:

John L. Daley, Lieutenant Governor of Vermont  
Robert Branon, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture, and Mrs. Branon  
Robert P. Davison, Director of Extension and Ex Officio Member of  
State ASC Committee, and Mrs. Davison  
Keith Wallace, President, Vermont State Farm Bureau  
James Croghan, Deputy Director, Farmer Programs Division, ASCS  
Harry Peters, Northeast Area Director, ASCS  
Richard A. Moore, Chairman, State ASC Committee, and Mrs. Moore  
J. Paul Bonneau, State ASC Committeeman, and Mrs. Bonneau  
Morris E. LaFrance, State ASC Committeeman, and Mrs. LaFrance

The group was honored that Lieutenant Governor Daley joined them for the banquet and enjoyed his brief remarks bringing greetings from the State Government.

Special guests at the banquet were Miss Cheryl Blanchette and her mother, Mrs. Peter Blanchette, of Essex Junction. Miss Blanchette is a student at Essex Junction High School and entertained the group by playing several selections on her accordion. Her pleasing manner, the choice of both fast and slow music, and her superb playing held her audience enthralled.

Once again, 125 guests were served London Broil by the efficient Hotel Vermont staff. This was one of the largest banquets in recent years. At the end of the evening the toastmaster presented the beautiful flowers on the head table to Mrs. Moore in appreciation of her serving as the conference hostess.

### ASCS Alumni

A special table at the banquet was reserved for State Committee alumni and their wives. Those present this year were:

Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Bryant, Manchester Center  
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Evans, Brattleboro  
Mr. & Mrs. Edson Gifford, Sr., East Bethel  
Arthur H. Packard, Jericho, and daughter, Mrs. Robert Davis

Other alumni present at the banquet were George Dykhuizen of Burlington, a former USDA consultant, and Miss Marcia Tudhope of Grand Isle, who has retired from the State Office staff.

Although Raymond Rowley, another State Committee alumnus, was unable to come to the banquet, the group was glad he could attend some of the day sessions of the conference.

#### Visitors from Cooperating Offices

We were pleased that the following representatives of cooperating agencies could attend sessions of the conference:

R. D. Aplin, Milk Marketing Administrator, Boston  
 Merton Ashton, Deputy Director, Selective Service System, Montpelier  
 Joseph Bornstein, Agricultural Engineer, UVM, Burlington  
 Edward Bouton, Executive Secretary, State Soil Conservation Council, Montpelier  
 Robert Deemer, U. S. Forest Service, Rutland  
 Robert Douglas, Swanton Lime Works, Inc., Swanton  
 T. W. Dowe, Dean, College of Agriculture and Home Economics, UVM, Burlington  
 Robert Farrington, Vermont Forest Service, Montpelier  
 Raymond Foulds, Extension Forester, UVM, Burlington  
 David Grimwood, Soil Conservation Service, Burlington  
 Paul Guare, Director, Rural Community Development Service, Montpelier  
 Arthur Heitmann, Vermont Forest Service, Montpelier  
 Richard Holmes, Deputy Director, Civil Defense, Montpelier  
 Edward Kehoe, Commissioner, Fish and Game Service, Montpelier  
 Jackie Karkos, Extension Information Office, UVM, Burlington  
 Jerry McIntosh, Extension Soil-Plant Relationship Specialist, UVM, Burlington  
 S. M. Martinetti, Farm Placement Supervisor, Department of Employment Security, Montpelier  
 Paul S. Newcomb, U. S. Forest Service, Rutland  
 Theodore Pawlowski, Soil Conservation Service, Burlington  
 L. J. Peet, State Conservationist, SCS, Burlington  
 Leslie Ravlin, Farm Family Project, Montpelier  
 Charles Rich, Swanton Lime Works, Inc., Swanton  
 Charles Rising, Farm Family Project, Montpelier  
 John Schulze, Rural Civil Defense Program Leader, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Mass.  
 Howard Stark, Vermont Associated Lime Industries, Inc., Winooski  
 Arlo Sterner, Lamoille County Forester, Morrisville  
 William Stone, County Agent Leader, Burlington  
 Joseph Trombley, Lamoille County Farmer, Morrisville  
 Noah Thompson, Rural Defense Information Specialist, Burlington  
 David Walker, Coordinator of Resources for Vermont, Montpelier  
 Leroy Ware, Vermont Co-op Council, Richmond

### Length-of-Service Awards

Certificates and pins recognizing the years of service rendered were presented to the following county personnel:

#### County Committeemen

10 Years

Robert Highter, Addison County  
Clarence Burrington, Caledonia County  
Henry Dagesse, Orleans County  
George Ridlon, Rutland County

#### County Office Managers

20 Years

Louise Rand, Orange County

10 Years

Grace Cameron, Grand Isle County

### Sixty Years of Valuable Service

Miss Frances G. Hutchison and Mrs. Bertha D. Saunders of the Vermont State ASCS Office were honored at the conference banquet for 60 years of valuable service with the Department of Agriculture. A. F. Heald, State Executive Director for Vermont, presented the certificates and pins.

Miss Hutchison first started work for the Department when she reported on December 2, 1935 for the Farmers Home Administration. She transferred to AAA in 5½ years and has been there ever since, serving in ever increasingly important assignments.

Mrs. Saunders started out with AAA right at the beginning. She first reported for work in April of 1936. She also has gone up the ladder in important assignments and is presently the clerk supervising county office fiscal operations.

### Afternoon Tea

Mrs. Heald entertained the wives attending the conference at afternoon tea at her home during the afternoon of the first day. Mrs. Richard Moore, wife of the State Committee Chairman, served as conference hostess, greeted the ladies on their arrival, and made arrangements for transportation. She was assisted in these duties by Mrs. J. Paul Bonneau and Mrs. Morris E. LaFrance, wives of State Committee members. Upon their return to the hotel, the ladies reported that they had spent a most enjoyable afternoon together.

### Exhibits

The general sessions of the conference were held in the Roof Garden where many charts and pictures of ASCS activities were on display. Some of these posters were used by various speakers as reference material.

The group is indebted to Noah Thompson, Rural Defense Information Specialist of the Extension Service, for the excellent Civil Defense exhibit which he set up. This proved to be especially interesting to those attending.

Publicity

Throughout the conference photographers and local newsmen were present, and the Burlington Free Press carried several articles covering conference activities.

Station WCAX-TV presented several conference pictures as a part of their local newscast on both Thursday and Friday.

During the lunch hour on Thursday, the State Committeemen, Harry Peters, and James Croghan of the Washington ASCS appeared on the "Open Mike" show over radio station WDOT. Jack Barry interviewed them about the conference and ASCS activities.

We are indebted to Miss Jackie Karkos of the Vermont Extension Information Office, and to Stephen Wade, ASCS Information Specialist, for their excellent work in handling publicity for us.



